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Islamic Affairs

Groups Issue Statement on Gulf Mediation

JN2109064090 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic
18 Sep 90 pp 1, 5

[Text] The Islamic movements' delegation last Saturday [15 September] issued a statement entitled "Statement by the Islamic Gathering." Following is the text:

We the Islamists, assembled in Amman as representatives of the Islamic nation as movements, organizations, and key Islamic figures including:

The Muslim Brotherhood and the Socialist Labor Party in Egypt; the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan, Syria, and the Yemen; the Islamic movement in Palestine; the Islamic movement in the Sudan; the Renaissance movement in Tunisia; the society for guidance and reform in Algeria; the Jamaat-e-Islami in Pakistan; the Welfare Party in Turkey; The Islamic Party in Malaysia; and Islamic figures and trends in Jordan.

1—In view of the sedition and split in the ranks of Muslims, and an unprecedented conspiracy against the land, resources, and sanctities of Muslims in a manner unacceptable to Islam and constituting a stab in the heart;

2—Out of our faith that Islam, as the identity and higher code of this nation, enjoined its adherents from estrangement and infighting and domination of Muslims by fellow Muslims; advocated intra-Muslim brotherhood, tolerance, and recourse to the rule of sharia [Islamic law] in their disputes; and ordered unity between their peoples, creeds, and countries—in the absence of which they will have no dignity, and that disunity has humiliated them and elevated their enemies and those who harbor enmity toward them;

Islam chose for them counseling among themselves as a system to apply in their lives—a system honoring man since it calls for freedom of expression, thought, da'wah [call to the faith], and participation in public affairs and other human rights;

Islam ordered that the wealth of the nation be held as public property for the common Muslims, to be handled according to the requirements of the sharia and public good, so as to serve solidarity; a fair distribution of wealth; and the development of the Muslim countries, their defense, and the advancement of their creed;

Islam also obligated Muslims to jihad to repel aggression and protect the sanctity of the land and sacred places and, toward that end, ordered that they side with each other. Let not the believers take for friends or helpers unbelievers rather than believers [Koranic verse];

3—Out of our belief that a conspiracy against Islam has been going on for centuries, as demonstrated in Palestine and its sanctities where the conspirators expelled its people and plotted, together with their crusade and imperialist partners, to control the other sanctities. The conspiracy against the Gulf was made with Zionist support and effective participation in an attempt to prepare the grounds for destroying the intifadah and achieving another phase in their expansionist dreams;

4—Out of our belief that reconciliation among Muslims is a religious and pan-Arab duty to spare their blood and maintain their power to face their enemies;

5—Out of our belief that the enemies of Islam and Arabism plan to destroy the region's defensive and scientific capabilities and confront its Islamic renaissance to prevent it from continuing its civilized march and help save mankind from the Zionist-Western scheme, which aims to destroy the world and civilization;

6—And, out of our belief in all that has been mentioned above and the need to supplement the contacts which certain individual Islamists have held with Iraq, Iran, and Saudi Arabia, we have decided, with God's blessings, to make a collective endeavor to:

—Study the background for the positions adopted by all parties concerned in the conflict.
—Propagate the Islamic stand and support the Islamic role.
—Mediate between the parties, prevent bloodshed, and give advice, beginning with Jordan, then Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Iran, as well as any country where we feel there is an interest in contacting the officials and popular and Islamic forces there.

Toward that end, and noting the Egyptian authorities' decision to prevent the majority of the Egyptian delegation to the gathering from attending, we have chosen a delegation comprising the following:

1. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Rahman Khalifah, Jordan.
2. Kamil al-Sharif, Jordan.
3. Qazi Hussain Ahmed, Pakistan.
4. Abdul Hadi Awang, Malaysia.
5. Rachid Ghanouchi, Tunisia.
6. Yasin 'Abd-al-'Aziz, Yemen.
7. Dr. Hasan Huwaydi, Syria.
8. Munir Shafiq, Palestine.
9. 'Adil Husayn, Egypt.
10. Dr. Hasan al-Turabi, Sudan.
11. Mahfuz Nahnah, Algeria. [name as published]
12. Necmettin Erbakan, Turkey.
13. Ibrahim Ghawshah, Hamas [The Islamic Resistance Movement], Palestine.

Advisers:

1. Ibrahim Mas'ud Khuraysat, Jordan.
2. Khalil al-Hamidi, Pakistan. [name as published]

3. Mahdi Ibrahim, Sudan.

4. Khurshid Ahmed, Pakistan. [name as published]

5. Ahmad 'Izz-al-Din, Egypt.

Delegation To Continue Efforts in Baghdad

JN2109071890 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
21 Sep 90 p 16

[Excerpts] Amman—The popular Islamic delegation, which was formed at the recent world Islamic gathering in Amman, has returned to Amman from Jeddah.

A responsible source within the delegation said the delegation met with King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz. According to the source, the king briefed the delegation on the developments in the Gulf crisis and showed optimism regarding the possibility of resolving the crisis through peaceful means. He also promised to help the delegation fulfill its task so that the solution can be achieved within the Arab and Islamic family.

The source added: The Saudi monarch stressed to the delegation that his country will not be a starting point for an aggression against Iraq, and urged the delegation to show patience, endeavor to avert the ghost of war, and to act so that truth may prevail and check the threats facing the region and nation.

The source pointed out that the delegation has met with a number of Saudi officials, some Kuwaiti popular figures, and a group of Muslim scholars from the Islamic World League. [passage omitted]

The delegation is composed of Islamic figures from Jordan, Palestine, Pakistan, Malaysia, Tunisia, Algeria, Yemen, Egypt, Syria, Turkey, and Sudan.

The source explained that the delegation is expected to leave Amman for Baghdad today to continue its efforts and endeavors.

Palestinian Affairs

Delegation in Moscow Regarding U.S. 'War Plan'

JN2009165490 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
20 Sep 90 Second Edition p 4

[Text] The PLO delegation currently visiting Moscow is carrying an initiative based on international legitimacy to tackle the Palestine question and the Gulf crisis in view of their political and concrete links. The initiative is also based on convening an international conference to deal with the Middle East problem, as a prelude to finding a just, balanced settlement.

The delegation, which comprises Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh and Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin, is seeking to use the PLO's weight and relations with the USSR to bring about Palestinian-Soviet-European political coordination to deactivate the war plan Washington is preparing, and to give wider opportunities for reaching a settlement to the crises of the region on a just basis.

Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, head of the PLO Information Department, said that the PLO would not hide its worries and dissatisfaction with recent Israeli visits to Moscow, which were made under U.S. pressure during the Helsinki summit, pointing out that this pressure is continuing in order to reestablish relations between the USSR and the Israeli entity, and to do away with the condition set by Moscow for the restoration of of these relations, namely, the Israeli entity's approval for convening the international conference with the participation of all parties, including the PLO.

He said that reestablishing Soviet relations with the Zionist entity will have negative effects at the Palestinian, Arab and Islamic levels. He added that the delegation will conduct a detailed discussion with the Soviet leadership on a number of issues, most important of which are plans linking the Palestine question and the Gulf crisis, and the need for holding a session of the Security Council to conduct a comprehensive discussion of all Middle East issues. He also said that the delegation will suggest holding an Arab-Soviet-European meeting at the level of foreign ministers, with the participation of fraternal Iraq, to discuss Mideast issues in an integrated, balanced manner.

'Abd-Rabbuh added that the PLO attaches great importance to Moscow's support for the formula of an Arab solution to settle the Gulf crisis within the Arab framework, without giving any excuse for the foreign military presence in the region, pointing out that the PLO considers the withdrawal of the forces of the United States and its allies as a basic condition for the political settlement of the Gulf crisis.

He also explained that during the visit the delegation will discuss Jewish emigration, which is still going on calmly under the smokescreen of the Gulf crisis, especially since Moscow had earlier put forward some ideas on this issue. The delegation has some queries on the Soviet commitment to preventing Jewish emigrants from infiltrating the occupied territories, passing Soviet laws to allow the return of Jewish emigrants to the USSR, and preventing forced deportation of Jews to Israel, as is happening now.

In addition, he noted that Moscow had promised to deal positively with these issues, saying that the meeting would be frank to the maximum degree—which is demanded by the serious situation in the region and in view of the close ties between the PLO and the USSR.

Using 'Every Means' To Expel U.S. Forces Urged

JN2009135490 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
0650 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. George Habash, secretary-general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], has spoken to our radio:

[Begin Habash recording, in progress]... This is not our position alone. It is the position of all the Arab masses without exception; it is the position of all Palestinian masses, Jordanian masses, and all Arab masses. We have felt it clearly throughout the Arab world—full condemnation of the U.S. intervention in the Arabian Gulf. And now a loud and united voice emerges from the Arab region: Get out of our lands or else this land will be a graveyard for you. This is the position of the PFLP on the intervention, namely, political, military, regional, and pan-Arab struggle using every means to force the U.S. Administration to withdraw its forces unconditionally. We must prepare on both local and pan-Arab levels, and use every means, as I said, to force the U.S. Forces out of our sacred lands.

It is clear that the U.S. Administration is lying when it talks about the objectives of its presence in the Peninsula. I even go further and say that the U.S. Forces have not come only to defend Saudi Arabia. The real aim is to strike and crush the giant Iraqi Army, which has begun to acquire the power needed to impose the Arab will, instead of foreign will, on the oil resources. The U.S. Administration has recently expressed such desires. What is Baker's plan? It says that even after the Gulf crisis has ended, our forces will stay [in the region], and we are thinking of Arab, American, or foreign alliances to protect the oil wealth and its low prices.

But it is very useful for them to remember that the Arab masses confronted the Baghdad Pact, and [word indistinct] came here in 1955 to force Jordan to join that pact. And we know that the people and revolution of Iraq in 1958 completely foiled all those alliances. As our heroic Iraqi, Jordanian, and Arab people crushed the alliances of the fifties, they will be able to annihilate the alliances of the nineties. [end recording]

'Arafat Chairs 'Expanded' Leadership Meeting

JN2009194690 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has presided over an expanded meeting of the Palestinian leadership at the guest palace in Amman. During the meeting, discussions dealt with recent developments, Gulf crisis developments, and the means to reach a peaceful settlement that would spare the region total destruction. The need to find an Arab solution to the crisis was stressed because it is an internal Arab affair. The leadership also discussed the situation of Palestinians working in the Gulf after some Gulf states has deported many of them. These measures were considered blatant aggression against the rights of Palestinian expatriates. Heading the topics that were discussed were means to escalate the heroic intifadah in the occupied Palestinian territories, the increasing and escalating Israeli repression against our Palestinian people, and means to continue support for the intifadah to enable it to confront the occupation authorities' fierce campaign until the objectives for which the intifadah was launched have been achieved, especially the right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state on its national soil.

Algeria

President Returns From Tripartite Meeting

LD2009224790 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid returned this afternoon to Algiers after taking part in a tripartite summit in Rabat with Moroccan King Hassan II and Jordanian King Husayn.

The summit, which began 19 September in Rabat, was basically devoted to discussing the situation in the Gulf. A source close to the Jordanian delegation said that King Husayn put forward some ideas and proposals for a peaceful settlement in the Gulf.

It has been reiterated that King Husayn will visit Iraq accompanied by the Algerian and Moroccan foreign ministers to propose the most important ideas that were debated by the three leaders in Rabat.

Another source said that there are hints of an initiative that Morocco may be drafting calling for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait after the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from Saudi Arabia, then allowing the peace process to proceed through the convening of an international conference.

Egypt

U.S. Idea for Security Order Under Review

JN2009164390 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 17 Sep 90 p 6

[Report by 'Abd-al-Jawad 'Ali]

[Text] Dr. Ahmad Salamah, minister of state for People's Assembly and Consultative Council affairs, has stated that the U.S. idea to establish a new security order in the Arab region is still being studied, and that Egypt cannot approve this idea easily, especially since Egypt has a known historical position on the question of alliances in the region. He said that Egypt is in favor of a simultaneous withdrawal by Iraqi forces from Kuwait and foreign forces from the Gulf.

This came at the meeting held by the Consultative Council Arab Affairs Committee yesterday under Dr. Mufid Shihab to discuss the return of the Arab League to Egypt and the Egyptian role in joint Arab action.

Dr. Ahmad Salamah said there are no grounds for fear of the U.S. role in the region or of U.S. relations with Egypt. He said Egyptian policy determines its stands accurately within the framework of international relations and mutual interests.

Dr. Ahmad Salamah explained that Egypt's affiliation with Arabism is a genuine one and will continue to be so, because this is Egypt's destiny. He said this is beyond any doubt, regardless of what minor problems might occur here or there. Proceeding from this fact, he said, Egypt differentiates between the stand of the Egyptian [as published] people and that of the Palestinian leadership on the Gulf crisis, because Egypt's relationship with the Palestine question is one of destiny. He noted that for the sake of the Palestine question, Egypt offered over 100,000 martyrs and over $150 billion, but Egypt does not regret that because this is its destiny.

During the committee's discussions, 'Umar Abu-Sutayt [not further identified] urged that Egypt should resolve its economic problems through a prominent role in supporting the brothers in the Gulf states and protecting them from Iraqi ambitions.

Groups Reject Entry Into American 'Alliance'

JN2009202090 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 18 Sep 90 pp 1, 5

[Report by 'Abd-al-Hayy Muhammad]

[Text] National forces, represented by professional unions, teaching staffs, and student unions have denounced the Egyptian authorities' decision to prevent the travel to Jordan of the Islamic alliance delegation to participate in Islamic efforts to contain the Gulf crisis within an Arab and Islamic framework. The national forces condemned the growing restrictions and siege around the Islamic movement.

The national forces reiterated their strong rejection of military alliances with the United States and demanded a halt to dispatching Egyptian forces to Saudi Arabia to fight under the U.S. umbrella. They also demanded that no permit be given to grant military facilities to any forces whatsoever on Egyptian soil.

This came during a conference by professional organizations held at the teachers union headquarters last Wednesday [12 September] and attended by organizations of doctors, veterinarians, lawyers, engineers, sociologists, and painters.

Dr. Yusuf 'Abd-al-Rahman, the joint president of the teaching staffs clubs, voiced his strong condemnation of the measure to prevent the travel abroad of the Islamic alliance delegation and expressed the dismay of Egyptian university teachers concerning reports about Egypt's entry into an American military alliance along with Israel and other states.

The professional unions, teachers clubs, and student unions reiterated their support of a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis and within Islamic ranks, and noted their condemnation of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the foreign presence in the Gulf.

Contacts With Iran on Disputes, Gulf Reported

JN2009175490 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Dispatch by Mustafa Bakri from Cairo]

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources have told our radio that during Egyptian-Iranian contacts through diplomatic channels over the past two days, Iran agreed to settle all the outstanding disputes between the two countries. Information revealed that the contacts, which were held yesterday through an Arab state, concentrated for the first time on discussing security arrangements in the Gulf region and Iran's participation in these arrangements. According to the sources, Iran said it was prepared to participate in these arrangements on condition that the Gulf forces themselves provide the necessary guarantees for such arrangements and without any foreign participation.

Egypt expressed its agreement with the Iranian viewpoint, indicating that the region's security concerns the Gulf states themselves, including Iran, and that what these states agree upon will remain the basis for these arrangements. The sources said that Iran welcomed Egypt's participation in these arrangements, which, according to these sources, is a positive gesture that will accelerate the restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries. The sources expressed the hope that a meeting between the two countries' foreign ministers would be held next month, adding that such a meeting would discuss the restoration of relations, Egyptian POW's in Iran, and the former Shah's money and property in Egypt, and of course the security problem in the Gulf.

Minister on Medical Care, Health of Returnees

NC2009160690 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Engineer Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transport, communications, and maritime transport and the man in charge of the operations room providing services for the Egyptians returning from Kuwait and Iraq, said that 2,885 citizens returned home yesterday. Of these, 1,435 were flown home aboard 10 flights on Saudi, Gulf, and Belgian planes and 1,450 were transported by two Egyptian ferryboats from al-'Aqabah to Nuwaybi' harbor. This brings the total number of Egyptians who have returned home to 287,979. They were tranported home on 165 ferry trips and 540 airplane flights.

Eng. Sulayman Mutawalli said that the Egyptian medical team in Jordan has emphasized in its reports that no epidemics or deaths have taken place among the returning citizens, and that they are provided with necessary medical help at their assembly and departure points.

Union Protests Islamic Alliance Travel Ban

JN2109065290 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 18 Sep 90 pp 1, 5

[Text] The liberties committee in the union of journalists has denounced the prevention of the Islamic alliance delegation from traveling to Jordan to participate in efforts by the Arab popular mediation to contain the Gulf crisis. In a meeting last Wednesday [12 September], the committee voiced deep concern over the recent security developments that will lead to a tightening of restrictions on public liberties.

The committee criticized the negative role played by most of the Egyptian media vis-a-vis the Gulf crisis, indicating that these media published incorrect reports on the crisis and openly instigated the foreign forces to start war and spread hatred among the Arab people.

The committee denounced the detention of colleague Khalid al-Sharif, a journalist employed in the newspaper AL-HAQIQAH, and his torture by security men. The committee demanded his release.

On another level, colleague Majdi Ahmad Husayn lodged a complaint with the doyen of journalists, Makram Muhammah Ahmad, concerning the ban placed on him by security authorities from traveling with two other colleagues, Husayn 'Abd-al-Raziq and Farid al-Naqqash, to Amman to attend a popular conference on the Gulf crisis. Majdi Husayn asked the doyen to take the necessary action to counter these unconstitutional measures.

League's Ibrahimi Departs After Two-Day Visit

NC2109093490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—Lakhdar Ibrahimi, Arab League assistant secretary-general and secretary of the tripartite committee entrusted with solving the Lebanese crisis, left Cairo this morning following a two-day visit. While in Cairo, he discussed Lebanese developments and the efforts being made by the tripartite committee to bring about a reconciliation. Ibrahimi met with Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, and reviewed developments in the Lebanese situation.

Chinese Officials Hold Talks on Cooperation

NC2009163890 Cairo MENA in English 1329 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, Sept 20 (MENA)—Minister of Cabinet Affairs and of State for Administrative Development Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd met today with Chinese deputy minister of administrative development and his accompanying delegation.

Dr 'Ubayd told reporters following the meeting that they discussed means of boosting cooperation between the two countries in the administrative development for the service of production domain and the exchange of expertise in developing management institutes in Egypt and China.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the Central Body for Management and Administration Dr. Husayn Kazim. The Chinese guests arrived here earlier on a few days' visit to Egypt.

Libyan Transport Minister Arrives for Visit

NC2009191790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1819 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)—Engineer Mubarak al-Shamikh, Libyan minister of transport and communications, arrived in Cairo this evening for a visit of several days to Egypt.

In an arrival statement, he said his visit comes within the framework of cooperation between the two countries to complete the efforts conducted by experts in the field of joint projects for transport and communications.

He was received by Engineer Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transport, communications, and maritime transport.

UAE Petroleum Minister Makes Brief Visit

NC2009191590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1718 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)—Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, petroleum minister of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], arrived in Cairo this evening for a visit of several hours.

He was received at the airport by Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development.

[Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1828 GMT reports that al-'Utaybah left Cairo for home this evening at the end of a visit that lasted for several hours and that he was seen off at the airport by Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development.]

Mubarak Receives Message From Senegal's Diouf

NC2009161390 Cairo MENA in English 1257 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, Sept 20 (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received today a message from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali was handed the message during his meeting today with Senegalese Charge d'Affairs in Cairo Ahmadd Tyam. [name as received]

Tyam said, following the meeting, the message expressed the appreciation of President Diouf and the Senegalese people to the role played by President Mubarak, during his chairmanship of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), to solve the African problems especially the Mauritanian-Senegalese conflict.

President Diouf will visit Egypt in November to attend the celebrations marking the inauguration of the African University in Alexandria, he added.

Joint Communique Issued With Zimbabwe

NC2009160390 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Egypt and Zimbabwe have declared their opposition to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and called for the unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. The two countries also voiced support for the UN Security Council resolution concerning the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict. This came in a joint communique issued today following talks between Tichaendepi Masaya, Zimbabwean minister of state for finances, economic planning, and development, and Dr. Butrus Ghali, Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs.

The two countries also called for the Israeli withdrawal of Arab occupied territories. The two countries called for the complete abolition of apartheid and for continued sanctions against the South African government. The two sides urged unity among African national movements in South Africa.

Dr. Ghali and the Zimbabwean minister of state for finance and planning signed the minutes of their talks, during which the two countries underlined their desire to consolidate their relations in all areas.

Delegation Leaves for IMF, World Bank Meeting

NC2109075390 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—The Egyptian economic delegation which includes Dr. Salah Hamid, the Central Bank governor; Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of state for administrative development and cabinet affairs; Dr. Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation; and Dr. Muhammad al-Razzaz, finance minister; left Cairo this morning for the United States. The delegation will join Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and planning minister, in attending the joint annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank to work out a final agreement on rescheduling Egyptian debts.

Impact of Crisis on Arab Security Assessed

PM2009143490 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 14 Sep 90 p 5

[Article by 'Abd-al-Sattar al-Tawilah: "Instead of The Arab NATO"]

[Excerpts] Among the most lamentable negative results of the current Gulf crisis are the despair and frustration concerning the Arab ability to tackle the dilemma, especially regarding the Arab states' security problem in the face of any aggression. Articles are published daily emphasizing that there is and can be no Arab ability, but rather, that there is constant Arab inability which will continue forever. In fact, some now do not believe in the existence of pan-Arabism itself. In view of all this, a question has been raised: What will happen after the Kuwait crisis ends?

The Americans are putting forward the slogan of an Arab NATO alliance along the lines of the Eisenhower plan, as revealed by AL-WAFD on Wednesday [12 September]. And most Arabs are confused and keeping silent. They cannot find an answer to this question. That confusion is in fact a very good asset for the "Arab NATO alliance" idea being raised.

Actually confusion and silence are meaningless. Arab capability exists, and the Arabs are capable of establishing a strong system that would maintain security, not only in the Gulf, but in the Middle East as a whole. A system that can totally dispense with any foreign intervention or alliances involving any form of foreign involvement.

The disaster of Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the serious crisis resulting from it and which we are currently facing occurred because the Arabs failed to establish a security system at the pan-Arab level. It cannot be imagined at all that the Gulf Cooperation Council has the ability to repulse an aggression against any of its members. And this was proved by the total failure to confront Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

The Gulf crisis has proved that there is an overwhelming pan-Arab feeling. The proof of this is that most Arab states, including the most influential ones, Egypt in particular, feel that the invasion of Kuwait threatens the security of the Arab world as a whole and affects these states' interests and stability. So Arabism and pan-Arabism are there, but what is missing is organizing the Arabs and uniting their capabilities under a unified Arab security system. [passage omitted]

But what form can a strong, unified Arab security system assume?

First, we must immediately hasten to establish an Arab economic system based on justice. This is because it is no longer acceptable or tolerable that a few Arab states live in ivory towers built on hills of gold while other areas of the Arab states are bound by the shackles of backwardness, hunger, poverty, and disease.

It is not reasonable that Kuwait, with a population of 600,000 served by 1 million from the other peoples, should have $149 billion invested in the Western world. [passage omitted]

On another level, the Kuwait experience has proved that the peoples in the Gulf are very far from participation in what is happening there.

Thus the regimes in the Gulf must introduce democracy, even if only gradually. Party pluralism, freedom of the press, and constitutional institutions must be allowed. All that would strengthen the sense of national, not tribal, affiliation and end the accusations of superiority leveled at some Gulf states.

The Arab arms industry must be expanded, and Egypt already has an important base for it. But the other Arab parties must contribute both work and billions of dollars to purchase the world's most advanced technological inventions and expertise.

Then comes the role of agreeing on charters and clear guarantees for the formation of joint military forces under a unified command to be based in specific areas. Those agreements should organize the introduction of any arms industry in an Arab country into the comprehensive Arab military industrialization system. That in itself would constitute a guarantee that special weapons would not be used against any country by a particular country.

These are general outlines which we propose for establishing an Arab security system instead of a security system imposed on us or in which foreign parties participate. [passage omitted]

AL-RIYAD Ponders Iran-Iraq Rapprochement

PM2009141790 Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 15 Sep 90 pp 1-20

[Editorial: "Fragile Alliance!!"]

[Excerpts] We do not think that anyone who understands the circumstances and tries to strengthen human and natural ties among societies and peoples would oppose the rapprochement between Iraq and Iran. This is because the obvious thing is for relations not to be subject to personal attitudes. And this is what the region needs, namely, to build its trust on clear and positive dealings. But what happened resulted from pressure on Iraq, and Iran knew how skillfully to exploit and accept it.

The forfeiture of land, acceptance of the Algiers agreement, the imposition of other conditions which may include an admission that Iraq was the aggressor, and the demand for sizable compensation for war losses are the simple words that will secure other gains for Iran from inside Iraq.

We know that the Iranian decision to help Iraq with medicines and food supplies in return for any other deal, is nothing compared with the boost to morale which this will produce among the Iraqi people, namely that, as will be said, Iran still has a bigger heart than Saddam despite the eight-year war which led to major hostilities. And that by dealing directly with the Iraqi people, Iran will be able to move into the Iraqi social structure, especially in time of difficulty—not an easy achievement. [passage omitted]

The Iranians cannot gamble with their interests or evade the international resolutions imposing the embargo against Iraq. But they are maneuvering on the basis of their interests, which do not conflict with the international logic—a consideration which leads us to describe Iranian policy as wise and capable of gaining achievements without any drawbacks, from its standpoint. This is unlike Iraq because Saddam has started to hand over everything to Iran without seeking any results or gains.

Obviously we acknowledge that the policy of alliances in time of difficulty is a national aim which justifies both

the end and the means. But in Iraq's and Iran's case the situation is different because there is no alliance like that which took place between Russia and Germany before World War II or like West Europe's alliance with the Soviet Union during Germany's invasion of Russia. This is because Iran now needs to consolidate its internal position, and this can only be achieved through successive achievements that compel it to pay nothing. But Iraq's position is different because it wants to secure any way out, even a diplomatic way out, that will rescue it from its dilemma. So Iran knew how to deal with Iraq's circumstances and exploit them in the best way.

Despite this, by all criteria for judging the Iraqi-Iranian marriage, it is the party less able to stand fast in the face of events. This is because the wolf cannot coexist with the lamb. And we can apply this to the two countries' position and the future of their policies.

Paper Criticizes King Husayn, 'Arafat 'Proposals'

NC2109084690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2226 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)—AL-AKHBAR has expressed regret at the continued insistence of the Jordanian king and his companion Yasir 'Arafat on carrying out alleged mediation efforts which no one asked them to perform.

In its Friday [21 September] editorial, the paper notes that [King] Husayn has visited Washington, London, Rome, and innumerable other capitals, and that the only, unchanging response with which the king met during these tours was that there will be no dialogue or negotiation with Iraq's pirate [Saddam Husayn] before he has implemented fully and unconditionally the UN Security Council resolutions, and that the aggressor will not be rewarded for his ugly crime. In fact, he should pay reparations for the damages and losses which resulted from his foolish behavior and unbalanced thinking.

The paper points out that 'Arafat's and Husayn's proposals seek only to free the man for whom they are working from the hand of international justice and to give him sufficient time to swallow his prey.

The paper notes that the similarity in 'Arafat's and Husayn's proposals is not a coincidence because they are always in agreement on the need for him [Saddam Husayn] to be rewarded for his invasion of an Arab country and because they avoid any signal for him to withdraw his forces from the land of his prey.

Crisis To Increase Deficit by 6 Billion Pounds

JN2009164790 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 19 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] Prior to his departure from Cairo en route to Washington yesterday, Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and planning minister, said that the deficit in the balance of payments will increase in the current fiscal year from 1.5 billion pounds to 7.5 billion pounds as a direct result of the Gulf events. He added that ways to face this deficit through a short-term plan and a second long-term one are currently being considered. He went on to say that these plans would seek to rationalize imports, especially imports of consumer products and production requirements, and to bolster domestic industrial activities to help rationalize the use of foreign currency.

In a memorandum to be submitted to the Council of Ministers, Dr. al-Janzuri said that the deficit would reach 7 billion pounds, including a loss of 3 billion pounds in Egyptian expatriate remittances, an increase of 3 billion pounds in the cost of imports, a loss of 300 million pounds in the earnings of the Suez Canal, and a loss of 700 million pounds in tourism returns. In contrast to these losses, there will be an increase of approximately 1 billion pounds in oil sale revenues. Consequently, the net deficit will be 6 billion pounds.

Ministry of Planning estimates indicate that the deficit in the trade balance—between exports and imports—will increase by 5 billion pounds because of the Gulf developments. The total deficit in the trade balance is expected to reach 17.5 billion pounds by the end of the current fiscal year. That is, there will be an increase of 2 billion pounds over the deficit of the previous year.

'Voice of the Arabs' Extends Transmissions

NC2009192890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1605 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)—It has been decided to extend the transmission of "the Voice of the Arabs" radio, the major Arab political service dealing with the (Gulf) crisis in the Arab homeland, to 24 hours daily. It also has been decided that the Voice of the Arabs will broadcast on three mediumwaves instead of one as at present. This means the addition of two mediumwaves to its shortwaves enabling it to operate nonstop all day long and cope with the time difference in the Arab east and Arab Maghreb states.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif announced this decision today following the conclusion of a meeting of the information policies committee under his chairmanship. The committee discussed the rearrangement of the broadcasting frequencies to conform with the media dealing with the Gulf crisis and improve the effect of Egyptian broadcasting in the Arab area by increasing the capacity of its operating frequencies to ensure a fully clear reception with high technical efficiency.

The committee has also decided to allocate a strong new independent medium frequency to transmit the Nile Valley and Palestine broadcasts at the same times which were allocated for them on the Voice of the Arabs frequency. The Voice of the Arabs broadcasting time is thus increased by eight and a half hours daily, enabling it to carry out its information role at this stage.

Al-Sharif added that it has been decided in light of this new broadcasting policy to amend the transmission times of the Middle East [Al-Sharq al-Awsat] broadcasting station which

will begin its noon transmission at 1300 instead of 1200. He further said that it has been decided that the Middle East broadcasting station will carry a new three-hour news and political program from midnight until three in the morning. He explained that reception is clear in the Arab Maghreb during this period and fits with the time difference in this area because the station can be heard there from 2200 at night until 0100 in the morning.

The information minister said that it has also been decided that the general program [Cairo Domestic], which broadcasts 24 hours daily, will use very powerful transmitters backed by 22 boosters to cover new areas in the neighboring Arab regions, including the Gulf area and the Arab Maghreb states. Al-Sharif added that these decisions will be implemented as of this Saturday [22 September].

The meeting was attended by the heads of broadcasting, the radio engineering department, and various radio networks.

The following is a schedule of the changes made to the Egyptian broadcasting network's frequencies and their time of transmission.

Broadcasting Station	Wavelength	Frequency	Duration
Voice of the Arabs	483.9 Meters	621 KHZ	24 Hours
	298 Meters	1008 KHZ	0800-1200
			1800-0600
	271 Meters	1107 KHZ	0500-0700
			for Arab
			Maghreb
			2000-0500
			for Arab
			Maghreb
General Program	366 Meters	819 KHZ	24 hours
Middle East	388 Meters	774 KHZ	0600-0830
			1300-2400
			2400-0200
			west
Nile Valley	271 Meters	1107 KHZ	0700-0800
			south
			1700-? south
Palestine	271 Meters	1107 KHZ	0800-1000
			east
			1400-1700
			east
Hebrew	298 Meters	621 KHZ	0600-0800
			1400-1800

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Talks to Mubarak, Ben Ali by Phone

LD2109092990 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Yesterday the brother leader of the revolution and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, had telephone contacts.

Yesterday the brother leader of the revolution also spoke on the telephone with President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of the sisterly Republic of Tunisia.

Sudan

Al-Bashir Receives Saudi, Jordanian Messages

EA2009230690 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Khartoum, 20 September (SUNA)—Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC], has received a letter from His Majesty King Ibn-Talal Husayn of Jordan on the results of the latter's contacts with the heads of Arab and European states. A responsible source at the Republican Palace said the letter was sent in the framework of the continuous consultations between the Arab leaders to find an Arab solution to the Gulf crisis.

[Khartoum SUNA in Arabic at 1410 GMT on 20 September reports: "Lt. Gen. 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the RCC, has received a letter from the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, inviting Sudan to participate in a meeting for establishing an international fund to help Lebanon."]

Kuwait

Nationals Reportedly Continue Resistance Efforts

NC2009161690 Cairo MENA in English 1328 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Nuwpybi', Sept 20 (MENA)—The Kuwaiti resistance has escalated its operations against the Iraqi invasion, an eyewitness of those returning from Kuwait said.

The Kuwaiti resistance men carry out their operations at night, a matter which lowers the morale of the Iraqi soldiers who were forced to march in groups and patrol the country at night inside armoured vehicles.

The traces of the successful attacks of the Kuwaiti resistance are witnessed in the streets every morning where fires which was set over night remains glaring in the burned Iraqi tanks and military vehicles.

According to the Egyptian witness the Iraqi soldiers stormed into houses on claims of searching for foreigners to arrest Kuwaiti youths.

He said that an Iraqi soldier told him that food is running out due to the looting of stores, cooperatives and shops in Kuwait and the scarcity of foodstuff quantities which arrive to the Iraqi troops from Baghdad.

The witness further said that the Iraqi troops have recently started to evacuate the Kuwaiti people and replace them with Iraqis.

They have changed the names of the streets and distributed the houses owned by those who fled Kuwait on Palestinian and Iraqi citizens, he added.

The Egyptian eyewitness said that the Kuwaiti National Petroleum Company in 'Abdallah port where he used to work, was turned into a military arsenal after the Iraqi troops stormed into it on August 2.

He further said that he saw the Iraqi soldiers while destroying the company offices and taking possession of the safes and all equipment, before the arrival of experts who carried the sophisticated equipment used in the refinery and petrochemical sections to Baghdad.

According to him Egyptians in Kuwait have been most badly treated by Palestinians there whose numbers are put at 650,000.

Opposition Has 'Clear View' of Gulf Scenario

JN2109082490 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Sep 90 pp 1, 15

[Report by the Arab affairs editor]

[Text] Fifty days after the beginning of the Gulf crisis, Kuwaiti political figures and forces in Kuwait, London, and Saudi Arabia have begun to re-evaluate their positions on events that have shaken the Gulf. Talks and contacts with prominent Kuwaiti figures from all political walks of life in London and Saudi Arabia suggest that after catching its breath, the Kuwaiti opposition now has a clear view of the situation and has rearranged its national program in the wake of of the new realities that emerged from the serious events in the Gulf.

These forces and figures, which represent the symbols of the Kuwaiti nationalist movement and the various Arab nationalist, Marxist, Nasirite, independent, and progressive movements—Dr. Ahmad al-Khatib, Jasim al-Qatami, Ahmad al-Rab'i, Ahmad al-Nafisi, Sami al-Manis, and others—have begun to publicly and frankly raise in their meetings and talks the slogans for the next phase and stress the need for the withdrawal of U.S., British, and other foreign forces from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf. They also stress the need for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait, granting the Kuwaiti people the right to self-determination and to choose their form of government, and establishing a special relationship between Kuwait and Arab Iraq. But, as for the "al-Sabah family," the opposition rules it out of any solution because the Kuwaiti people reject the "family role" as a formula for the future of Kuwait, because peoples do not walk backward, as one of the Kuwaitis has put it.

As for the "al-Ta'if popular conference," which the al-Sabah family has called for, contacts initiated by exiled Kuwaiti opposition figures with Jordanian figures in Amman yesterday confirmed that those Kuwaiti political forces and figures will boycott the conference. They said they consider it a "family conference" that does not represent the Kuwaiti people. Those circles said the Kuwaiti opposition will continue its contacts and efforts with political figures, intellectuals, and university lecturers from various trends to agree on the basis for Kuwaiti moves in the current phase and to prepare for launching a program for national action that would rally the Kuwaiti people.

Exiled Paper Criticizes Palestinian Leaders

PM2009152490 London AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI in Arabic 17 Sep 90 p 8

[Bu-Khalid article: "Kuwait and the Palestinian Cause"—formerly Kuwait AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI]

[Text] It is no secret nor is it a kindness to Kuwait to say that it and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have been the most supportive states in the region of the Palestinian cause since the disaster started. And while Egypt has shouldered the huge military and political burdens, Kuwait has supported the cause at numerous and various levels, starting with embracing hundreds of thousands of our Palestinian brothers through to supporting and backing their leaders, financially, materially, and morally.

It is no secret that Kuwait did favors to PLO and Fatah leaders without asking or pressuring them to take political or ideological stances within the Arab ideological conflict or the struggle for power and influence.

And today, Jordan's king and Yasir 'Arafat are trying to snub the Kuwaiti people. They are also trying, in numerous ways, to remove the banner of truth, justice, and Kuwaiti legitimacy through a blatant call by some symbols of Arab Palestinian action who have not the courage to condemn the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. They are trying to delude themselves and some simple people into believing that the main issue facing them is the problem of the U.S. presence in the region. I hope that the glorified king and the daring leader of the Palestinian revolution will return to their consciences, dispel their fear, have the courage of leaders, put matters in their Arab and Islamic context, and announce that Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait and that the legitimate government be restored. It was that government which supported and backed them and granted both the cause and its leaders power and influence. Then there is the issue of the international presence in the region, which they know full well came as a result of the presence of a bloodthirsty and murderous terrorist from whose conspicuous behavior Iraq and the Arabs have suffered a great deal.

Assails Habash Remarks

PM2109081890 London AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI in Arabic 17 Sep 90 p 2

[Article by 'Muhammad...': "George Habash"—formerly Kuwait AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI]

[Text] Which of us yesterday saw [Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine leader] George Habash on British television saying, with closed eyes and knitted brows, frowning, "get out...get out," and thought that the international forces would fear George Habash's anger? Anyone who knows George Habash knows that he has long been taking leave of his senses.

He took leave of his senses when he bitterly attacked the Soviet Union and wrote a book against communism, then years later returned to write books in support for communism and against anything else, including his Arabism and the Islam of millions of Muslims.

George Habash took leave of his senses when he missed the target in Jordan in the seventies—a sin for which the Palestinians paid the price.

George Habash took leave of his senses again and again when he supported the invader who has desecrated Kuwait's territory—a greater sin.

And today George Habash is trying to say that the principal problem is the international forces' presence, forgetting the reason and motives for their presence.

George Habash believes that Palestine's liberation will come through the occupation of Kuwait. What a false and deceptive awareness.

When George Habash meets now with his grimmest enemies to bless the occupation of Kuwait, this reflects the tragic state of the awareness of George Habash and those like him. George thought that he was liberating Palestine when he cried, "get out..get out." But we tell George Habash that the liberation of Palestine will not be achieved by destroying the Kuwaitis' bones and skulls with Saddam Husayn's bullets.

We hope that you will at last realize that you have always acted aimlessly and will continue to do so!

Exiled Government Offers Compensation to Egyptians

NC2109054890 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0335 GMT 21 Sep 90

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-AHRAM reports that officials of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government have offered to pay $30 million in grants to disaffected Egyptians who were working in Kuwait before the Iraqi invasion. The Kuwaiti party left it up to the committee headed by Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and planning minister, to work out the criteria and rules for distributing this sum. The paper says that the legitimate Kuwaiti Government has expressed its readiness to pay August and September salaries to Egyptians who were working in Kuwait before the invasion along with an end of service compensation to those who do not want to return to Kuwait after it is liberated.

Correction to Protest of Iraqi Actions

LD1809134590

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Protest Sent to Arab League Over Iraqi Actions," published in the 19 September Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 21:

Column one, first paragraph, only sentence, make read-:...[Text] Tunis, 18 Sep (SPA)—The permanent delegation-...(supplying dropped dateline)

Qatar

Paper Optimistic on Outcome of Rabat Meetings

JN2009154490 Manama WAKH in English 1510 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Manama, Sept 20 (GNA)—[passage omitted] Qatari 'AL-ARAB' daily expressed a degree of optimism as regards the results of the Rabat mini-Arab summit in the drive to find a peaceful Arab solution conducive to ending the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and restore the legitimate Kuwaiti Government under the leadership of Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

"After seven black weeks, let us wonder while reading and listening to a statement here and a speech there and the beginning of attempts to redress the Arab position and the attempts of those who remained outside the Arab consensus to return to the Arab fold after having

miscalculated and seen the falsehood of the claims of the Iraqi regime," [sentence as received] the paper said.

Concluding, the paper said the tripartite mini-Arab summit came in the wake of consultations which have been made by Morocco, the country that has adopted a principled stand vis-a-vis the crisis and actively participated in the implementation of the emergency Arab summit and UN Security Council resolutions and a country whose endeavours would no doubt conform to the Arab consensus which accepts nothing other than complete Iraqi withdrawal and the restoration of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

French Senate Delegation Visits To See Troops

Senator Holds Press Conference

LD2009220790 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2005 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Mr. Jean Lecanuet, chairman of the French Senate delegation who is currently visiting Saudi Arabia, pointed out that the measures adopted following the Iraqi threats to the Arabian Gulf countries are sufficient and secure the countries of the region against any Iraqi aggression or attack.

He expressed France's full solidarity with Saudi Arabia and said: "We are adding our efforts to the efforts of our friends in Saudi Arabia since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait."

In a press conference held last night in Jeddah, he reviewed his country's stance towards the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the stages of the French moves following the developments in the region after the invasion. He pointed out that France insists on the implementation of the UN resolutions in order to end the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and to restore the complete freedom of Kuwait.

He said: "All the French sectors and parties approve of the measures adopted by the French leadership concerning the crisis and the Iraqi violations of diplomatic conventions and human rights."

He stressed that France is committed to all measures that will restore peace to the region and consolidate international peace and that will provide protection from those who toy with the destinies of peoples and disregard international laws.

The French official said that the French people are shocked because the Iraqi regime stormed Kuwait, a small, peaceful country. He talked about the aggressive personality of Saddam Husayn and his lack of credibility. In this context, he referred to the promises made by Saddam Husayn that have not been honored. Husayn firmly promised some Arab leaders not to attack Kuwait, then did exactly the opposite.

Mr. Lecanuet cited the president of neighbor country of Iraq: "My country has mutual interests with neighboring Iraq, but its president, Saddam Husayn, is unpredictable and inscrutable."

Mr. Lecanuet pointed out that Saddam Husayn is trying to convince the world that his aggression against Kuwait is legitimate, which is a farfetched idea.

In reply to a question about the desertion of some Iraqi military personnel and whether this indicates disintegration of the Iraqi Army, Mr. Lecanuet pointed out that this indicates that dictatorships will eventually disintegrate. He expressed his hope that structural changes will occur in Iraq. He stressed the insistence of all countries to find an end to this crisis which Iraq created. He expressed his hope that the resolution on the air blockade of Iraq will be accepted by UN members, and said that the implementation of the air blockade will be more effective than steps already taken. He stressed that all European countries will support the French request to widen the blockade to include the air blockade.

He pointed out that if the nine European countries are unanimous about the resolution, then this will be the first important step by Europe toward mutual defense and will underline the new cohesion of the European countries.

He pointed out that, according to diplomatic sources, the draft resolution also includes sanctions against countries which will not respect the blockade, in addition to other measures which are not explained yet.

Mr. Lecanuet pointed out that the economic blockade of Iraq is basically aimed at forcing the Iraqi regime to withdraw from Kuwait. He said his country is participating in the general effort to help the countries harmed by the economic blockade of Iraq.

The chairman of the French Senate delegation talked about the violations of the residences of the diplomatic missions in Kuwait by Saddam Husayn's soldiers and their detention of diplomats. He said: "France can never submit to any type of blackmail or retreat because of any type of hasty or barbarous behavior."

He added: "The hostages detained in Iraq are of various nationalities, a matter which bestows an international character on the hostages issue."

Mr. Lecanuet talked about the current visit by the French Senate delegation to Saudi Arabia and pointed out that its aim is to meet French forces personnel guarding Saudi Arabia and friendly countries.

He said that the visit is also to meet Saudi officials to listen to their assessment of the current situation in the region and to learn their opinions and ideas about the future in order to restore peace within the context of respecting international law.

Meets General, Discusses Morale

NC2109114390 Paris AFP in English 1059 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Hafar al-Batin, Saudi Arabia, Sept 21 (AFP)—The morale of Iraqi troops occupying Kuwait is low and an Iraqi defeat is "certain" if it attacks Saudi Arabia, a top Saudi general said here Friday.

But General 'Abd-Al-Rahman al-'Alkami, commander of Saudi Arabia's northern region along the border with Iraq, said he could not rule out an offensive action by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn whom he described as "irrational."

"Anything is possible with Saddam Husayn. He is capable of embarking on an adventure of one sort or another," said the general.

Mr. Husayn had said he would not take any action against Saudi Arabia but Gen. 'Al-Alkami pointed out that the Iraqi leader had said the same thing before invading Kuwait on August 2.

Mr. Husayn will "certainly be defeated" but "an offensive is possible", the Saudi general told a delegation of six French senators here.

The senators were in Hafar al-Batin to visit the positions to be taken up by a 4,000-strong French force to be deployed in Saudi Arabia over the next 10 days.

Gen. 'Al-Alkami said the French forces would be placed in a "sector to be determined", along with Saudi and friendly forces.

Referring to morale in the Iraqi army, the general said "according to information that we have, the situation is very bad.

"The Iraqi army has been forced to carry out this war" against Kuwait, adding that it had come on the heels of "an eight-year pointless war with Iran."

Gen. 'Al-Alkami said that Iraqi military equipment was in poor condition following the war with Iran and said Mr. Husayn's troops were "only eating one meal a day."

He said "the morale of our forces and of our friendly forces is very good because we are convinced of our cause."

The general said that the multi-national forces in his zone were "conducting joint training".

Hafar al-Batin is about 60 kilometers (40 miles) from the frontier with Iraq. There are Egyptian, Syrian and other Arab forces in the area which is to the west of the region where Saudi and some 150,000 U.S. troops are deployed.

The French senators arrived here Tuesday and are going on Friday to Jeddah and Abu Dhabi.

Defense Minister Inspects Northwestern Unit

LD2009170190 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1540 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Tabuk, 20 Sep (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, today inspected units of the armed forces in the northwestern zone at Badr camp. [passage omitted]

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz addressed the commanders, officers, and members of the armed forces Units. The text of the address is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Peace and prayers be on the most honored prophet, our master Muhammad, and all his family and followers. [passage omitted]

Brothers and colleagues, under these conditions, whereby our country is exposed to threats and signs of aggression, we should all know that the best weapon we have is our faith in God almighty, and also our faith in the justice of our legitimate right to self-defense and to call for the help of our Arab, Muslim, and other friends and brothers in order to repel the danger threatening us. [passage omitted]

The Iraqi president, who for eight years led hundreds of thousands of Iraqis to death in an aimless war, is still living in daydreams. Every day he comes out with trivial initiatives and maneuvers through which he tries to raise marginal problems in order to distract attention from his real crime—the occupation of Kuwait. These initiatives reflect only the arrogance and intransigence of the Iraqi president, and are met only with the well-deserved disregard of the international community, which is unanimous in condemning the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Chinese Reportage on Faysal Visit

WA2009223790

For Chinese reportage on the visit to China by Saudi Foreign Affairs Minister Prince Faysal, including his talks with Chinese Premier Li Peng, see the Near East & South Asia section of the 20 September and subsequent issues of the China DAILY REPORT.

'Source' Denies 50 Jordanians Expelled

LD2009154790 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1508 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Riyadh, 20 Sept SPA—Yesterday, Wednesday, REUTER news agency carried a report quoting what it termed as Jordanian officials that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has expelled no less than 50 Jordanians in the last three weeks.

Denying this, a responsible source told SPA: "This report is absolutely devoid of truth."

Yemeni Tribes Cable Support to Fahd

LD2009160190 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 Sep 90

["Text" of message sent to the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud by the paramount shaykh of the tribe of Rahab and by the shaykhs of the tribes of Naham, Arhab, Khawlan, Bani al-Harith, and Bani Hushaysh of the Republic of Yemen; date of message not given—read by announcer]

[Text] To the esteemed custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud. In the name of the shaykhs, wise men, and members of the tribes of Bakir, Hashid, and 'Abi al-Hajj, we send you this cable with all sincerity and loyalty to declare our stand alongside you and the fraternal Saudi people in defense of the holy Saudi territories against he whose conscience allows him to stage any aggression against the holy territories. We support the decisions you have made to defend the homeland and the citizen. We condemn the unjust and inhuman aggression of Saddam's Iraq, and we also condemn the Yemeni authority of the Sanhani ignoramus 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, that parasitical and ignorant leader, who still unashamedly supports the criminal of Iraq in the face of the heroic sons of the Yemeni people who will not submit to the conspiracies of Saddam and 'Ali 'Abdallah, who have forgotten all the benevolence [ihsan] of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and all the states of the Arab Gulf. We also declare our readiness to volunteer, together with all our members, to defend the holy territories and liberate Kuwait.

May peace and the compassion and blessings of God be upon you.

[Signed] Shaykh Ahmad Humayyid al-Habari, shaykh of Rahab and all the shaykhdom's of the tribes of Yemen; Naham tribe: Shaykh Hadi Salih Sabr, Shaykh 'Abdallah Salih al-A'raj, Shaykh Ahmad Abu Hatam; Rahab tribe: Shaykh Mahfud Hadi Dawud, Shaykh Mansur Muhammad Hizam, Shaykh Muhamad Hadi, Shaykh Muhammad Ahmad; Khawlan tribe: Shaykh Dimani Ahmad al-Nasir al-Salimi; Bani Harith tribe: Shaykh Muhammad Hasan Ahmad 'Ali, Shaykh Mahdi Sa'id 'Husayn, Shaykh Husayn Yahya Muhammad, Shaykh 'Arif Ahmad al-Qadi; Bani Hushaysh tribe: Shaykh Ahsan Rassam, Shaykh Ahmad 'Ali al-Qusawi.

*Crown Prince Visits Front, Addresses Troops

WA2009181590 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 23 Aug 90 p 6

[Report on address by Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz to troops on Saudi Front; "During Inspection Tours of Armed Forces and National Guard, His Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz From Saudi Forces' Positions on Front: We Have Carried Our Weapons in Defense of Honor, Islam, and Muslims; All of Us and All Honorable and Peace-Loving Arabs and Muslims Are With You; 'Iraqi People' Are Part of Us and We Part of Them; We Are Partners for Better or For Worse; We Have not Lost Control of Balance of Developments; All Our Steps Move According to Careful Calculations; What Your Forefathers and Fathers Built is Your Inheritance and is Trust in Your Hands; We, Both Leadership and People, Are Fully Vigilant and We Take Everything Into Account"]

[Text] Jeddah, SAUDI NEWS AGENCY—His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy prime minister and national guard commander, departed Jeddah last Monday morning.

His highness was seen off at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport by His Royal Highness Prince Badr Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the national guard deputy commander; His Royal Highness Prince Majid Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, governor of the holy Mecca Province; His Royal Highness Prince Khalid Bin-'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the national guard vice-commander in the Western Province; and their highnesses the royal princes.

His highness was also seen off by His Excellency 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri, the national guard assistant deputy commander; 'Ali al-Sha'ir, the minister of information; and prominent civilian and military officials.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz arrived at the Saudi Forces' positions on the front where he was received by His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad Bin-Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the Eastern Province governor; His Royal Highness Staff Lieutenant General Khalid Bin-Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the joint forces commander; His Royal Highness Major General Mut'ib Bin-'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, commander of the King Khalid Military Academy; and His Royal Highness Prince Mashari Bin-Sa'ud Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the national guard vice-commander in the Eastern Province.

Upon his highness the prince's arrival, a band played the Saudi royal anthem. His highness then shook hands with the high-ranking commanders and officers of the armed forces and the national guard and with the prominent officials.

His highness then proceeded to the command center of King 'Abd- al-'Aziz Second Mechanized Brigade where he inspected the brigade command and heard a brief explanation from the brigade commander and staff officers about the tasks entrusted to the brigade.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz then delivered a guiding address to the commanders, officers, and troops of King 'Abd-al-'Aziz Brigade in which he conveyed to them the greetings of the armed forces' supreme commander and custodian of the two holy mosques. The following is the text of the address:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate,

My sons, commanders, officers, and troops of the national guard in every position in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

I greet you and I shake your hands one by one and I carry to you the greetings of your supreme commander, the custodian of the two holy mosques.

Today, history is rushing toward you to say about you what it said about your fathers and forefathers who, side by side with their leader King 'Abd-al-'Aziz, may God's mercy be upon him and upon them, established the greatest and oldest unity in modern Arab history. They established it on the backs of camels and horses and sacrificed blood and sweat for it.

My sons, I do not wish to talk about your virtues, courage, and probity because they are a foregone conclusion. But I wish to say that whoever seeks to disturb the tranquillity of this world's peace has no place in a peaceful world, regardless of who agrees and who disagrees.

We realize this, and we see it with piercing insight. The current developments are terrible developments whose consequences only God knows. But we beseech Him, may He be praised, to protect this nation—Muhammad's nation, may God's peace and prayers be upon Muhammad—from a catastrophe. Should such a catastrophe materialize, God forbid, the dreams will be lost and the vision will swerve.

On my way to you, I wished the purpose of my visit to you was to bid you farewell and to see you along with your brothers and comrades in arms in the valiant Iraqi army and in all the Arab armies, proceeding to restore the usurped and legitimate rights in Palestine.

But regrettably, God's will cannot be averted. However, hope continues and it will not die in our souls, God willing.

What I wish to tell you now is that the camps that stretch in front of me are swollen with my brothers and yours, the sons of the Kuwaiti people who have fled their country, the dearest land to their souls. I urge you to treat them charitably, to respect them, and to facilitate all their affairs.

I urge all the citizens and officials who hear this word of mine to soothe their pains and to treat them as they treat their parents, brothers, and children, keeping in mind that the government has opened its heart to them and has mobilized everything at its disposal for their comfort. The Kuwaiti people are your kinsmen and the bond of flesh, blood, and faith between you is a historical bond.

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

His highness then shook hands with the high-ranking commanders, staff officers, and officers of King 'Abd-al-'Aziz Brigade, wishing them success.

His highness the crown prince then proceeded to the command center of the King Fahd Eighth Brigade of the armed forces where his highness inspected the brigade command and heard a brief explanation of the tasks entrusted to the brigade from the brigade's commander and staff officers.

His highness the crown prince shared the daily life of the officers, NCO's [non-commissioned officers], and troops of the King Fahd Eighth Brigade through his visit to their living quarters.

His highness the crown prince then departed the headquarters of the King Fahd Eighth Brigade. The brigade commander, staff officers, officers, NCO's, and troops saw his highness off with the same warmth with which they had received him.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz was accompanied on his inspection tours of the command headquarters of King 'Abd-al-'Aziz Second Mechanized Brigade and of the King Fahd Eighth Brigade by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy defense and aviation minister and the inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Mut'ib Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the minister of public works and housing; His Royal Highness Prince Nawwaf Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, His Royal Highness Prince Fawwaz Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad Bin-Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the Eastern Province governor; His Royal Highness Staff Lieutenant General Khalid Bin-Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the joint forces commander; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud Bin-Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, His Royal Highness Staff Major General Mut'ib Bin-'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the King Khalid Military Academy commander; His Royal Highness Prince Mashari Bin-Sa'ud Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the national guard vice-commander in the Eastern Province; their royal highnesses the princes, General Muhammad 'Abdallah al-'Amr, the national guard military organization chairman; the high- ranking armed forces' commanders and officers in the national guard, and a number of officials.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy prime minister and national guard commander, attended on Tuesday, two days ago, the luncheon organized in his honor by the northern zone command.

The luncheon was interspersed with a speech rally and was started with a recitation of verses from the holy Koran. The northern province commander delivered an address in which he welcomed his highness the crown prince and his honorable companions and asked his highness to convey the greetings of the Northern Province commanders, NCO's, and troops to King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques and the armed forces' supreme commander.

In the address delivered in his name and on behalf of members of the northern province command, the commander renewed the pledge to sacrifice life in defense of the faith, of the king, and of the country against the forces of oppression and aggression.

The commander added: We shall, God willing, deter until victory or death the forces of evil and aggression, and we declare our absolute support for the decisions

and steps taken by the custodian of the two holy mosques to defend the dear homeland.

He added: On this occasion, it pleases me to express to you that our brothers who have arrived in this province from the sisterly Arab countries feel happy and honored to stand side by side in order to fight the party that has swerved from the line, that has committed aggression tyranically and unjustifiably, and that has not observed the right of the faith, of Arabism, or of neighborhood.

Concluding his address, the northern province commander beseeched God, may He be exalted, to preserve this nation's faith and guardians and to turn the deceit of the plotters and the evil of those who wish us harm into a curse upon those who plot against us.

A member of the northern province command then recited a poem.

His Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy prime minister and the national guard commander, then delivered on the occasion the following guiding address:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate,

Brothers and comrades in arms in the joint Arab and Islamic forces and in the Saudi armed forces, the shield of the Arabian Peninsula,

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Welcome to you among your kinsmen. I give you the noblest greeting and I carry to you the greetings of the custodian of the two holy mosques. The people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia greet you.

Today, while the eyes of the Arab and Islamic world, rather of the entire world, turn to you in deference and esteem, you tell them from your position here: Our peoples and our leadership have found their way to the right path and to the unity of arms.

You say: The weapons we carry in our hands are to defend the honor of Islam and the Muslims.

You tell them: This is our path to unity and union.

You tell your Arab and Islamic world: Support your brother, be he oppressor or oppressed. Support him if he is oppressed and deter him if he oppresses.

Brothers, the sites threatened with dangers cannot be divided. We have long asked ourselves: Is there a reason for this rising alarm which forewarns of a catastrophe in the region? The truth and the developments that have caught us by surprise say no. The entire world attests to this.

It may be asked: And what about your position toward President Saddam [Husayn] in the Gulf war? How do you view your position with him today?

We tell those who ask: Our answer to those who ask is that the fraternal Iraqi people are part of us, and we are part of them; and that we are partners for better or for worse. Our fear is that a defeat will be inflicted upon them, dividing and scattering their ranks and fragmenting their unity into ethnic groups and into sects. We have done our fraternal duty without making him obliged, and we have no apology to make for anybody who asks.

When the war ended, we thanked God for its termination. We thought that peace and prosperity were entering the region. But Iraq's unjustifiable invasion of Kuwait and Iraq's shift from a limited war to boundless dangers whose consequences only God knows have led the entire region and the Arab and Islamic countries into a dark tunnel. Tens of years may pass, God forbid, while the nation continues to flounder in fearful chaos and aimlessness that lead to the loss of reason and in tendencies and visions where the criterion of vigilance is submerged in dreams. Should we, the nation of Muhammad, may God's peace and prayers be upon him, and of charity, justice, peace, and mercy, sever our blood relations and oppress each other!

To this moment, the Iraqi president still has in his hand an opportunity for peace and for averting dangers from our nation and our peoples. The only solution to this dilemma which has attracted the attention of the entire world to our region is to have moral courage and to listen to reason and to the appeal of reason and of peace.

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

The luncheon was attended by their royal highnesses the princes, by the northern province commanders and officers, the Peninsula shield forces, and the fraternal Arab forces.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud received last Monday evening the King Faysal 10th Brigade Group, the King Fahd Eighth Brigade Group, and the Fifth Air Defense Group at his highness' residential quarters at the armed forces sites on the front.

The reception was interspersed with a speech rally which was inaugurated with a reading of verses from the holy Koran, recited by Captain 'Abdallah al-Humayd. Major General Salih al-Muhayya, the Eastern Province commander, then delivered the following address:

His Royal Highness, the crown prince, the deputy prime minister, and the national guard commander; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd-al- Rahman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; their royal highnesses the princes and brother officers; NCO's; and troops.

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

In my name and on behalf of your sons the armed forces' officers, NCO's, and troops, I welcome your auspicious arrival to inspect your sons who are defending their faith, their king, and their country in the fields of dignity and honor.

Your highness, your visit is inspired by the prophet's Hadith, may God's peace and prayers be upon the prophet, about the ruler's relationship with his subjects. Your sons appreciate the hardship you have endured in traveling to the kingdom's various parts to meet them.

Your highness, we reaffirm to you our faithfulness and loyalty, pledging before God, may He be praised and exalted, to sacrifice our lives to repel the aggression against our dear country. This is a legitimate right established by the divine law. God, may He be praised, has said: "If then any one transgresses the prohibition against you, transgress ye likewise against him."

Again I welcome your highness and your honorable companions, beseeching the almighty God to perpetuate our security and stability, to spare us our enemies' evil, and to preserve for us King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the patron of our renaissance, our leader, and the custodian of the two holy mosques, and to preserve for us your highness and his highness the second deputy prime minister.

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Naval Lieutenant Khalid al-Azuri then recited a poem on the occasion.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz then delivered at the reception a guiding address to the members of these groups, including commanders, officers, NCO's, and troops, in which he conveyed to them the greetings of King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques and the armed forces' supreme commander, as well as his personal greetings.

The following is the text of the address:

Brothers, the sons of our armed forces,

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Honorable men, I have come to greet you in my name and on behalf of your commander, the custodian of the two holy mosques.

I have come to tell you, men, that we, leadership and people, are present with you in the field of honor, remaining vigilant. We are fully alert, and we have taken everything into account.

We have not lost control of the developments. We are fully vigilant and our steps are made according to careful calculations. We fully understand how to protect against offhanded thinking and misguided vision.

We are with you in the same trench politically, economically, and militarily. We, all the honorable Arabs and Muslims, and all the peace-loving people in the world are with you.

I say this on the basis of our ethical Arab and Islamic principle. We do not exaggerate, and we do not exceed the bounds against anybody. If we enlist help, then it is God's help that we enlist. If we misstep, God forbid, at any time in our life, then we return to God promptly, without arrogance and without risking our peoples' stability and prosperity.

Brothers, you, your fathers, and your forefathers have hundreds of years of an honorable and clean history behind you.

This kingdom has united you, and you have built its security and stability. King 'Abd-al-'Aziz, the supreme commander, may God's mercy be upon him, led you to the honor of sacrifice and to an honorable history.

Today, what your fathers and forefathers built and united is a trust in your hands. It is your inheritance and the inheritance of your children and of future generations. Its loss and dispersal, may God forbid, is a loss, an insult, and humiliation to you. You have never humiliated or belittled yourselves. You have lived in the heart of this country and the heart of genuineness, of honor, of chivalry, and of noble traits of character.

This is your place in the Arab nation, and this is your law, the law of Islam which was brought by the prophet of mercy, may God's peace and prayers be upon him, in order to perfect your noble traits of character.

I again extend to you the greeting with which I began, and I implore God to grant you success and victory. God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

The reception was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd-al- Rahman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Mut'ib Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the minister of public works and housing; His Royal Highness Prince Nawwaf Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, His Royal Highness Prince Fawwaz Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad Bin-Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the Eastern Province Governor; His Royal Highness Staff Lt. Gen. Khalid Bin-Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the joint forces commander; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud Bin-Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, His Royal Highness Staff Maj. Gen. Mut'ib Bin- 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the commander of King Khalid Military Academy; His Royal Highness Prince Mashari Bin-Sa'ud Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the national guard vice-commander in the Eastern Province, and their royal highnesses the princes.

The reception was also attended by Gen. Muhammad Bin-'Abdallah al-'Amr, the national guard military organization chairman; and by high-ranking commanders and officers of the armed forces and of the national guard.

Everybody had dinner at a banquet given by his highness the crown prince.

Yesterday—Wednesday—evening, His Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy prime minister and the national guard commander, arrived in Jeddah from the armed forces' positions on the Saudi front after making an inspection tour of those positions.

Receiving his highness at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport were His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud Bin-Muhammad Bin-'Abd- al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al- 'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Fahd Bin-Muhammad Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz; His Royal Highness Prince Badr Bin-'Abd- al-'Aziz, the national guard deputy commander; His Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-Muhammad Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud; His Royal Highness Prince Khalid Bin-'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the national guard vice-commander in the Western Province; and their royal highnesses the princes.

Also receiving his highness were 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Muhsin al- Tuwayjiri, the national guard assistant deputy commander; 'Ali al- Sha'ir, the minister of information; and high-ranking civilian and military officials.

Yesterday morning, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd- al-'Aziz left his residential quarters on the Saudi front after making an inspection tour of the armed forces there.

Upon his departure, his highness the crown prince was seen off by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad Bin-Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the Eastern Province governor; His Royal Highness Staff Lt.Gen.Khalid Bin-Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the joint forces commander; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud Bin-Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad Bin-Nawwaf Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz; Hamad al-Jabrayn, the governor of Hafr al-Batin; Staff Maj. Gen. 'Abd-al-Rahman al- 'Alkami, the Northern Province commander; the armed forces' high- ranking commanders and officers; and prominent officials.

Arriving in the company of his highness the crown prince were His Royal Highness Prince Mut'ib Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the minister of public works and housing; His Royal Highness Prince Nawwaf Bin-'Abd- al-'Aziz; His Royal Highness Prince Fawwaz Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz; their highnesses the royal princes; and a number of officials.

May God preserve his highness wherever he travels and stays.

United Arab Emirates

Minister Leaves for UN General Assembly Meetings

JN2009153490 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sept 20 (GNA)—UAE [United Arab Emirates] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah left for the United Nations today to attend the 45th meeting of the General Assembly, which opened on Tuesday. He will also hold consultations with several foreign ministers in coordination with GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] foreign ministers, who will also be present at the assembly.

GCC foreign ministers are due to meet U.S. Secretary of State James Baker next week as well as with the foreign ministers of Japan and Italy.

'Abdallah will address the assembly on October 3. He will stress the UAE's stand which calls for the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the return of the Kuwaiti legitimate government.

Kuwait's Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah will address the meeting next Thursday.

Yemen

Salih Sends Message to King Fahd on 'Relations'

JN2009154690 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, addressed a written message today to his brother His Majesty King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, king of the brotherly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The message deals with their brotherly bilateral relations, the importance of maintaining the level these relations have attained, and avoiding whatever stands in the way of these relations.

U.S. Constitutes 'True Danger to Peace' in Gulf

EA2009222890 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 20 Sep 90

[From the "Report and Comment" program]

[Excerpts] The 45th session of the UN General Assembly has begun in New York to examine important issues and to debate them. [passage omitted] UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's emphasis on peace merits full appreciation because the General Assembly is holding this session when the Gulf area, and indeed the Arab region in general, is experiencing one of its most dangerous stages and most difficult tests for preserving peace in the area because of the American military presence.

Perhaps the international official was expressing whatever is simmering in the human conscience when he pointed out the importance of peace and the necessity of examining it in the General Assembly, since this is the greatest and highest international forum. It brings together heads of state and government and foreign ministers so they can submit their proposals to the delegates of the UN member states, which number more than 160 countries, and so they can speak on various issues, including the issue of peace.

There is no doubt that Perez de Cuellar feels that peace is threatened in the Arab Gulf area and that the source of this threat comes from the United States itself. Therefore

it is difficult to achieve this necessary peace unless the United States is convinced that it constitutes the true danger to peace through the presence of its military forces in the area and that its present step of massing forces in the Gulf is the one that is distancing the area from peace and further aggravating the situation and complicating matters.

Perhaps it is not possible to persuade the United States to refrain from this stand even within the framework of the General Assembly and through other countries' stands. However, the concern for securing a peaceful atmosphere in the area and for keeping it free from the danger caused by the military build-up by the United States and its allies enjoins the UN secretary general and member delegates to clarify the dangers which threaten peace in the area and call upon member states in the international organization to work together to convince the United States that its stand is mistaken and that its military presence and its build-up in the area will not give peace a chance.

Housing, Urban Planning Minister Appointed 17 Sep

JN1809204690 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Sep 90

[Text] Four presidential decisions were issued this evening. The first appoints brother Muhammad Ahmad Sulayman as minister of housing and urban planning. The second appoints the brothers named below as assistant under secretaries of ministries in the Governorate of Aden as follows:

'Abd-al-Qadir 'Abd-al-Latif Mansur, assistant under secretary of the Ministry of Construction and Repair; 'Alawi 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Saqqaf, assistant under secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in his present grade; 'Abduh 'Abdallah al-Sayyaf, assistant under secretary of the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Eduction; 'Abdallah 'Ali Salih al-Khawdani, assistant under secretary of the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

The third decision appoints brothers Engineer Ahmad Salih al-'Ubaydi, assistant under secretary of the urban planning sector in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning; and Engineer Ghazi Ahmad 'Ali, assistant under secretary for the housing sector in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning.

The fourth decision appoints Engineer 'Abdallah Muhammad Jabarah, assistant under secretary for the animal production sector in the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources.

Revolution Fete Canceled in Wake of Gulf Crisis

JN1809083790 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Sep 90

[Text] The Presidential Council held a meeting today under its chairman, Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The council discussed several issues related to strengthening national development efforts. It also discussed the latest developments in the region and the cancellation of celebrations marking the 28th anniversary of the immortal 26 September Revolution. Moreover, it discussed and approved the suggestions presented by the brother prime minister on the nominations and appointment of heads, advisers, and assistant deputies of departments as well as appointments in the secretariat of the Higher Council for Economic and Investment Affairs and the Surveying Department. It also approved the establishment of a Music and Theater Department and some appointments at the Defense Ministry.

The Council discussed the outcome of the meeting between the brother chairman of the Presidential Council and Moroccan King Hassan II's envoy, in which they exchanged views on the current regional developments and coordinated stands toward them. The Council praised the Moroccan position, which shares the Yemeni position many common denominators with regard to dealing with the Gulf crisis on a peaceful basis that would avert the disaster of a military confrontation in the region.

At the end of its meeting, the Council issued the following statement on canceling celebrations marking the 28th anniversary of the immortal 26 September Revolution: The Arab nation is currently going through a serious turning point as a result of the Gulf crisis, which was further escalated by the foreign presence in the region and its flagrant challenges, which aim in the first place at paralyzing the Arab nation's ability to safeguard its security and preserve its entity and cohesion so that it will be easy for these forces to weaken our internal front and disrupt our ranks in a manner which serves its interests and peddles its plans to control our nation's wealth and destiny under the pretext of maintaining a balance and establishing a new security order in the region.

In view of the critical circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing; proceeding from our country's pan-Arab responsibility and its firm principled positions on the Arab issues; in our capacity as part of the Arab nation, with whom we share all joys and pains; in view of the accelerating developments in the Gulf region and the resultant tragic situation which has adversely reflected on the unity of the Arab ranks and created a rift in Arab solidarity; and as an embodiment of our constant principles and poistions, the Presidential Council decided during its meeting on Monday 27 Safar 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 17 September 1990, to cancel all celebrations on the 28th anniversary of the immortal 26 September Revolution throughout the Republic and in our diplomatic missions abroad.

We ask God the almighty to return this national occasion when the Arab nation has overcome this affliction and restored normal Arab solidarity in such a way that strengthens its strength and cohesion, preserves its pride and dignity, and maintains security and stability in the region, far from any foreign conflicts or interventions in the internal affairs of our nation, which is more eager than others to resolve its disputes within the framework of the one family without any interference.

Saddam Threatens To 'Cut Off' Attackers' Heads

TA2009175890 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1730 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Ankara (A.A)—Iraqi President Saddam Husayn said his country can go on fighting for years and threatened in an interview published on Thursday to cut off the heads of those who attack it.

"We are not a people to grovel before someone who threatens us... We are peace loving and will make sacrifices for peace but if someone wants to force us to bow, we know how to cut off their heads before we fall," he told former Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit.

"We have fought for eight years (in the Iran-Iraq war). If need be, we will fight for three, four or five or six more years," he said in the interview published in the liberal daily MILLIYET newspaper.

The newspaper said that Ecevit, the leader of the extra-parliamentary Democratic Left Party, interviewed Saddam in Baghdad Tuesday (?On the issue) of the U.S. military buildup in the Gulf, Saddam said: "We know that the United States is the leading superpower in the world. But we are confident that we are in a position to harm it.

"What will the Americans do now? First, they can continue the embargo against us, but we have prepared ourselves to stand this for years.

"Secondly, they can attempt to strike us by using a pretext.

"They are already talking of hitting us and finishing us in a few hours. But who says we are ready to accept a war of a few hours?" he added.

Saddam spoke of an increase of pro-Iraqi sentiment in some Arab countries.

"Iraq will not remain alone in such a war. You must have noticed what is happening in Arab countries," he said.

"I would like to say that the Americans have fallen into their own trap.

"As the war is prolonged the international position of the United States will alter. When war begins and continues for some time, America cannot maintain its level of supremacy," he added.

"We do not feel ourselves trapped," he told Ecevit, a journalist turned politician.

On relations with Turkey which has joined U.N. sanctions against Iraq, Saddam said: "We are friends...We do not credit the possibility of a threat to ourselves from Turkey. No harm will come to Turkey from us."

Ecevit informed the Turkish Foreign Ministry that his visit to Baghdad was purely for journalistic purposes and he had no intentions of mediation as a politician, a Ministry spokesman said on Wednesday.

Planes From Saudi Arabia Said Violating Airspace

JN2109085290 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0830 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

At 1214 on 20 September 1990, two planes coming from the direction of Saudi Arabia penetrated Iraqi airspace over Iraqi- Jordanian-Saudi borders at a depth of 7 to 10 km, a latitude of 9,500 meters, and a speed of 1,000 km and 40 meters [as heard] per hour.

[Dated] 2 Rabi' Awwal 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 21 September 1990.

Progress Cited in Negotiations for Brazilians

PY2009170290 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1624 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Negotiations by the Brazilian delegation in Iraq are making progress. This morning the Brazilian representatives met again with Iraqi Government representatives and have managed to overcome several bureaucratic obstacles.

At this moment Ambassador Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima is at the Iraqi Defense Ministry for a new round of negotiations.

In Brasilia, Itamaraty has disclosed that the Brazilian mission in Iraq has already requested authorization for an Iraqi aircraft to land at the Rio de Janeiro International Airport should Iraq decide to release the Brazilian citizens.

French 'Volunteers' Arrive at Installations

JN2109114690 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] A number of French volunteers arrived in Baghdad last night to stay in the vital installations as guests of Iraq's people and leadership.

In statements to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, the volunteers stressed their support and backing for Iraq in its confrontation of the wild imperialist-Zionist onslaught. They said: We have come to Iraq as messengers of peace to prove to the whole world that the French are a peace-loving people and that we oppose the French Government's stand on the current Arabian Gulf issue, and to show to the French people that there is no fear among the French guests of Iraq, who are staying at its vital installations.

They added that 75 percent of the French people oppose the idea of direct military intervention to resolve the regional problems and support peaceful dialogue. They were received at the airport by a delegation representing the Iraqi-French Friendship Society.

Friendship Society Official Arrives in Baghdad

JN2009185690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Sep (INA)—Gille Monet, secretary general of the French-Iraqi Friendship Society, arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit of several days to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Monet expressed his happiness to be visiting Iraq, a land of ancient civilizations, and said that the visit is to express solidarity with the Iraqi people in particular and the Arab people in general.

Monet said the problem Iraq is facing is not only an Iraqi or Arab problem but an international one, because there is an American and Zionist presence in an area occupying an important position in the world. He stressed the need for peaceful dialogue and diplomacy to solve all problems in the region away from the logic of interventions and military threats that will start a destructive war engulfing the whole world.

He said he will meet with a number of Iraqi officials to discuss bilateral issues and the region's situation and developments.

He was met at the airport by the chairman of the friendship, peace, and solidarity organization and the president of the Iraqi-French Friendship Society.

Meets Counterpart

JN2109160490 Baghdad INA in English 1545 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 21, INA—Mr. 'Adnan Dawud Salman, chairman of the Friendship, Peace and Solidarity Organization in Iraq, today met Secretary-General of the French-Iraqi Friendship Society, Mr. Gille Monet and a delegation of French volunteers.

During the meeting Mr. Salman said that the imperialist-Zionist plan would be doomed to failure against the challenge and steadfastness of the Iraqi people.

Mr. Salman expressed Iraq appreciation for the French people's initiative and their solidarity with the people of Iraq in confronting the dubious conspiracies machinated against the Arab and Moslim nations.

Mr. Monet and the French volunteers denounced the Economic blockade imposed on Iraq and the Zionist-imperialist policy for starving its peace-loving people.

The French volunteers arrived here last night as guests of Iraq who would be hosted in a number of its vital establishments.

Paper Calls on Mitterrand To Redress Stand

JN2009085090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Sep (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has expressed its regret over French President Francois Mitterrand's relinquishment of the remaining pillars of the free, independent policy that De Gaulle's leadership consecrated for France.

In its editorial today, the paper warns against the negative consequences of Mitterrand's response to the U.S. policy against the Arab nation on the relations between the Iraqi and French peoples and on their interests. The paper reviews the course of Iraqi-French relations since the seventies, and says: Iraq was always concerned about the qualitative and distinguished relations, and has sought and is still seeking to promote and entrench them in the interest of the Iraqi and French peoples. Moreover, it has dealt with the French stands with extreme flexibility because of the special relations between the two countries and France's positive role in the international arena and its balanced stands toward the Arab issues.

AL-JUMHURIYAH points out that these relations have begun to deviate from the course from which they started. It says: This has become clear during the past two years despite Iraq's continuous efforts to redress their course and deal positively with the French stands, and despite its concern about removing the negative aspects, reinforcing all previous points of agreement through its good intentions, and avoiding all that would disturb these relations.

The paper adds: Iraq has not planned its relations with France to be merely transitional utilitarian relations between two countries which are linked with ties of cultural, technical, and economic cooperation, but had hoped and is still hoping and seeking to win France's friendship so that these relations can be promoted to their maximum level in light of the current international situation, which witnessed essential changes that have led to the emergence and expansion of the U.S. hegemony.

The paper stresses that the relations Iraq aspires for with France could have served the declared French approach in the international arena just as they could have served the average French citizen who is affected a great deal by the relations with Iraq and who finds in these relations something that meets his needs and constitutes a guarantee for his future.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that President Mitterrand has harmed Iraq and its people inasmuch as he harmed France and the interests of its people, and calls on him to redress his stands in order to save the relations between the two countries from serious deterioration.

Human Rights Committee Protests to U.S., UK

JN1809180690 Baghdad INA in English 1527 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 18, INA—Iraqi Human Rights Society has condemned decision of the inhuman economic blockade on Iraq, which is considered a clear violation of all international agreements and charters.

In two protest notes sent to the British and American Governments, the society denounced the policies working on implementing the unjust economic blockade and the iniquitous measures against the people of Iraq and its children.

It has described the decision as dangerious violation of human rights particularly the right to life stipulated by the third article of the world declaration of human rights and other international charters and declarations.

Peace Organization Denounces UN Resolutions

JN1809150190 Baghdad INA in English 0945 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 18, INA—Iraq's Friendship, Peace and Solidarity Organization has denounced decision adopted by the UN Security Council and their adverse effects on Iraq, describing them as a grave precedent in the history of the United Nations.

In a message addressed to U.N Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the organization confirmed that the U.S. Administration insists on using force to deprive Iraq from food and medicine contrary to all international charters and norms. It had exercised pressures, threats and extortion in the U.N and Security Council for adopting decisions against Iraq.

The organization made it clear that the Security Council behaved in a manner thoroughly hostile to Iraq which had exercised its normal and legitimate right in unifying its land and people puruant to historical and geographic legitimacy and national and patriotic rules.

The organization referred to the U.S. premeditation by rejecting Aug 12 initiative released by President Saddam Husayn, calling for just and comprehensive solution on equal stands to all the region's disputes and problems for consolidating international security and peace.

The organization appealed to the U.N secretary general to exert further efforts for keeping the region away from foreign interventions in its affairs, ending the military presence, leaving its people to decide their options and destiny by themselves and action to foil the illegitimate blockade being imposed on Iraq that covered food and medicine.

Speaker Responds to IPU Official on Foreigners

JN1909174590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Sep (INA)—Sa'di Mahdi Salih, speaker of the National Assembly, has sent a message to Pierre Cornellion [name as received], secretary general of the Geneva-based Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU], in which he affirmed that the Iraqi measure of hosting foreign nationals is aimed at warding off the increasing foreign military threat and helping avert a war and the fall of tens of thousands of victims.

The message says: I have given special attention to the contents of the telex you sent us on 29 August. With my respect for all international agreements referred to in the telex cable, I find that it is essential to tell you the following facts, without which it would be difficult to understand or tackle the issue of foreign nationals in Iraq in an objective manner.

1. It would be inaccurate to use the term "hostages" for a certain number of foreign nationals in Iraq, who, in the first place, came to work and reside in Iraq in accordance with official contracts, and they are really being treated as guests.

2. Their freedom of travel has been curbed only because our national security and lives are currently being threatened by the United States and some of its NATO allies. If curbing the travel of a certain number of foreign nationals, with the exception of children and women, can help ward off war and the fall of tens of thousands of victims—men, women, and children—then the Iraqi measure must be fully justified from a humanitarian point of view.

On the other hand, how can one justify the French authorities' harassment of Iraqi nationals in France and preventing them from travel on the pretext of national security? Did the Iraqi trainees or Iraq actually pose a threat to French national security? As far as I know, the IPU has not addressed any appeal in this regard to France.

3. The Iraqi measure, being necessary to ward off the increasing foreign military threat, is in harmony with international law and Iraqi national law, as this is a case dictated by necessity.

4. We must say here that the economic blockade through force launched by the United States before the issuance of the UN Security Council resolution has also prevented the arrival of food and medicine. This means slow death for a population of 18 million. This is against international law, the UN Charter, and all humanitarian considerations. Nevertheless, the United States and its allies continue this unfair policy. How does the conscience of humanity and Europe, which claims to be defending human rights, accept all that?

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention and that of President Su [as received] to the important initiative proposed by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on 12 August.

In order to resolve all occupation problems in the region, including of course the Israeli occupation of Arab territories, his excellency proposed that the UN Security Council adopt unified measures to implement all relevant UN resolutions. Thus, the entire Middle East region will enjoy peace and security.

The Iraqi initiative confirms the fact that UN resolutions and procedures must be effective and applicable everywhere and without discrimination, as is the case with basic moral principles.

I sincerely hope that the abovementioned Iraqi views will be studied with an open mind and positively.

Writer Assails Egyptian 'Agent', Damascus 'Fox'

JN2009091090 Kuwait AL-NIDA' in Arabic 16 Sep 90 p 8

["Good Morning" column by Abu-Furat: "The Betrayers of the Nation Are Awaiting Their Inevitable Doom"]

[Text] From time to time, the betrayer of the two holy mosques declares that the stay of the U.S. invading forces on the land of Islamic and Arab sanctities is temporary and that these forces will leave once they are asked to do so.

At the same time, the administration of the dirty Zionist Bush is taking all the military and administrative measures for its forces to stay for a long time on the land of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia]. The rest of the gang are dancing to the same tune. Husni and the fox of Damascus—the seller of the Golan—have declared that they are ready to send more armed troops to join the U.S. mercenaries and the rabbis of Zion and their prostitutes.

Agent Fahd has ignored—or most likely forgotten because of his usual stupidity—that he is too unimportant to ask an American coquette who came to entertain the Yankee soldiers to return to her country. He knows full well that he would be thrown on the dump, which is awaiting him sooner or later, before he could sign a paper asking for the evacuation of the occupiers from the land of the chaste Muhammedan message.

However, we indeed blame the other agent Husni, or the third one, the seller of the Golan, for not telling the betrayer of the two holy mosques the truth and making him understand the way statements are prepared before they are made.

The Arab people have made their first move, and thrown the Croesus of Kuwait and his backward entourage into the hell of their holy wrath. They are determined to march ahead to crush all traitors and heretics of the stooges of imperialism and Zionism so as to achieve the new Arab glory under the leadership of the hero of victory and liberation President Saddam Husayn—may God keep and preserve him. We will meet later.

RCC, Ba'th Party Issue Statement on 'Battle'

JN2009232990 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2010 GMT 20 Sep 90

["Text" of statement issued after a joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party chaired by "His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn, this evening"]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O great Iraqi people; O sons of the glorious Arab nation; O Muslims who have found your path in righteousness and showed a resolve not to deviate from it, who have not been tempted by the attempts of the sultans of oil and dollars to make you deviate from the course of your faith; O you honorable people everywhere: With the passage of each day after the ranks of the unjust began to bare their teeth, especially after the forces of darkness occupied the holy lands, the boundaries of evil become clear. Likewise, the lots of evildoers as well as those of their masters who taught them to pursue failing policies have also become clearer. Now that the confines of evil have been made clear and that the dimensions of evildoers have become clear, the magnitude of the well-meaning and faithful people who love God and people, fight the devil, and whose gathering has redoubled and showed itself to be full of virtue and sacrifices, has shown itself. They are led by those whom God and history have chosen to play the role of the faithful vanguard, the great Iraqi people, upon whom every noble position and every sublime aspiration is built, since they constitute an unshakable foundation for this great edifice that God sought to be built for the entire gathering of the faithful.

The evildoers believe that this confrontation requires them to mobilize all their reserves, including the reserves they wanted to remain unexposed so they could play their roles within the ranks using deception and wiles to cover their tricky roles. They were not designed to appear on the first confrontation line and in the first of its arenas.

O proud Iraqis, O men of the al-Qadisiyah [9th century Omayyad defeat of Persians] battle in our valiant Armed Forces: Your nationalist role has been expanded and bolstered so that its principles have turned into slogans upheld by the sectors of mankind tortured and oppressed by the idol and its policies everywhere. O Arabs: The slogans of your pan-Arabism have become slogans for the nation chosen by God as the community among which the heavenly faiths were sent and as a cradle for prophets. You have returned to play the role that God has honored you with playing before as permanent guardians of the faith leading the gathering of the faithful against the gathering of the misled infidels—those who in the past found your gathering weak and thus held your Arab and Islamic nation in contempt. When the battle on the two sides of the confrontation is thus, O glorious Iraqis and Arabs, we know that you are qualified to engage in it so that you can satisfy the good thoughts of God, his messengers, and angels, and so that you can vindicate history. Hence, history will inscribe in your favor deeds that would be a source of pride to you and your future generations and that would help you to raise your heads as well as the heads of your grandsons aloft in veneration and dignity.

The most important thing is that everybody should guarantee his position in jihad and the heroic and glorious feats in the record of God the Almighty. When this happens and regardless of the level and quality of the sacrifices that will be made, when the objectives expand to include all that we have mentioned on the two sides of the confrontation, when evildoers gather from all sides, yet tremble before your patient, steadfast gathering, any sort of sacrifice becomes proper.

Indeed, the greater the number of the evildoers, and the heavier their equipment, the more fitting for you—none but you can take them on. We do not think—indeed this is the hope of all—it will be fitting for the army of al-Qadisiyah to rise against a gathering less or smaller than this opposing gathering. The greater the number and the heavier the equipment, the better and more fitting and the likelier that pan-Arab fervor and the fervor of the faith of the faithful will come to the fore. It will be more fitting that the men of al-Qadisiyah should rise to a battle of this type and meaning for the people, and for history.

Here in the Iraq of the Arabs and Muslims, and in the Iraq of all the believers and the good men, who have God clearly all the time between their eyes, we have irrevocably decided to lead this faithful gathering on the land of Iraq until the honorable result of God's victory. It is a great honor for us, and we thank the one and only God for it. We also thank the good men who have given us encouragement to fulfill it.

Brothers: Let yourselves not be deluded by what happens here or there in the field of politics and wherever the dust of battle thickens—the battles that we pray to God to spare humanity their tragedies. You must be confident that there is no room for anyone to hesitate from entering this battle according to standards of honor that they deserve, and with deep faith that will not find alternatives in other than what you know of the goals and the resolve to achieve victory, God willing. There is no hesitating or changing goals or the path between starting the confrontation and victory. The lowly will be accursed after God desires humiliation for them, and thus their straying from the minimum of the human line became sharper—without which man will only be in the abyss. They have stooped so low as to keep from the great people of Iraq food, medicine, and children's milk. They have descended so low as to impose a blockade on civilian aircraft, thus aiming to throw the Iraqi people into prison. What midgets they are! May they, most of all Bush and his servants Fahd and Husni, be accursed.

God today chose the good men to take up the cause of wronged humanity throughout the world, to stand up to injustice wherever its advocates are, and to champion the poor and the meek wherever they have to suffer hardship. Everybody must realize that this battle will be the mother of all battles, and that God wanted us to wage the battle of liberating the nation and humanity, the battle of liberating Jerusalem and the holy shrines on the land of Iraq. In its victory will be realized and liberated all that is supposed to be achieved and liberated. What an honor for every Iraqi man and woman! What an honor for every zealous Arab and every honorable and faithful person! God is great, and may the lowly be accursed.

[Signed] The joint meeting of the RCC and the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

Party Leader Says Arabs To Fight 'Battle'

JN1909180790 Baghdad INA in English 1700 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 19, INA—Member of the National Leadership of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party Badr-al-Din Muddathir has confirmed that the Arab masses will fight the battle on side of Iraq not from the land of Iraq only but from all the Arab land and all parts of the world.

During a visit to one of the training camps of the Arab volunteers to the national battle of destiny which Iraq is fighting against the enemies of the Arab nation, he described it the battle of the big Arab awakening in the time of the historic leader Saddam Husayn.

Mr. Badr-al-Din Muddathir referred to the economic blockade imposed on Iraq and confirmed that the Arab masses would not surrender to this blockade and would abort it and challenge it in all Arab countries.

Peace Organization Delegation Arrives in Baghdad

JN2009193590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1808 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Sep (INA)—The European and Mediterranean peoples peace organization delegation arrived in Baghdad today on a visit of several days to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Denis Smot [name as received], secretary general of the organization and member of the Maltese Parliament, said the objective of the delegation's visit was to express solidarity with Iraq for the sake of peace in the region. He added that during the visit the delegation will meet with Iraqi officials to discuss current developments in the situation in the region.

The delegation includes a number of European parliamentarians and peace advocates.

Hawatimah Arrives, Praises Saddam 'Initiative'

JN2009163090 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1606 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], arrived in Baghdad today at the head of a delegation on a visit to Iraq.

In a statement to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, Hawatimah described President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative as a golden opportunity for the world and the parties concerned to resolve all Middle East crises. He

said that this initiative has exposed the falsehood and hypocrisy of the U.S. imperialism to world public opinion. He added that any hostile bullet fired against Iraq by the imperialist and Zionist concentrations will be confronted by the Arab masses from the Gulf to the Ocean by attacking U.S. and foreign interests wherever they maybe in the Arab homeland. He added that the valiant intifadah and all the Arab masses are in one trench with Iraq against the nation's enemy, which is represented by U.S. imperialism and Zionism.

Red Cross, Crescent Official Arrives in Baghdad

JN2009192790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1816 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Sep (INA)—Andres Especrn [name as received], representative of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies [LRCS], arrived in Baghdad today on a visit to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, he said that during the visit he will hold talks with the officials at the Health Ministry and the Iraqi Red Crescent Society on means of supplying Iraq with what it needs in medicine and necessary medical material.

He was received at the airport by Iraqi Red Crescent Society officials.

Culture Minister Receives Jordanian Press Team

JN1909184690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA)—Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information, has received a Jordanian press team currently visiting the country at the invitation of the Culture and Information Ministry.

Latif Nusayyif Jasim said that Iraq and Jordan have the same approach toward the critical pan-Arab positions in which the Arab nation is passing. [sentence as received] He said that the pulse of Jordan—king, government, and people—has been, and still is, in harmony with that of Iraq—since Saddam's al-Qadisiyah [9th century Arab defeat of Persians] and up to the new confrontation against all enemies of the Arab nation, including the imperialists, the Zionists and their allies, such as the like of the betrayer of the two mosques and Husni [Mubarak].

The minister of culture and information hailed the courageous stand taken by our Arab people in Jordan, who have shown their solidarity in various forms and ways to support our valiant people, who are making a historic stand to bury the conspiracy hatched by imperialism and Zionism against Iraq in an attempt to damage its pride and victorious march under President Saddam Husayn.

Opinions were exchanged during the meeting on means to improve cultural and information cooperation between the two fraternal countries to serve the Arab nation's fateful causes.

The meeting was attended by the heads of the information departments and editors in chief of the Iraqi papers.

Ramadan Receives Arab Engineers Union Members

JN2009155290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Sep (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, received today heads of delegations of engineers unions in Palestine, the Republic of Yemen, Jordan, and Tunisia, who participated in the popular Arab popular forces conference that concluded its meetings in Amman recently.

During the meeting, Taha Yasin Ramadan stressed that the foreign and U.S. presence in the holy Arab places has exposed the open plotting against Iraq and the Arab nation by the U.S. Administration, the ally of the Zionist entity; the rulers of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia]; and Egypt. He pointed out that the Arab masses's pan-Arab awareness surprised the agents and their masters when they believed that these masses were still in their deep slumber as a result of some Arab rulers' agent, capitulatory policies.

The heads of the engineers unions in Jordan, Yemen, Tunisia, and Palestine expressed their solidarity with Iraq and President Saddam Husayn's leadership to defend the legitimate Arab rights. They stressed that all aggressors and plotters will pay a heavy price as a result of their aggression and treason against the Arab nation and its legitimate aspirations.

Minister Meets Vietnamese Counterpart 19 Sep

JN1909172490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1410 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA)—Umid Midhat Mubarak, minister of labor and social affairs, today met with Tran Dinh Hoan, Vietnamese minister of labor, war invalids, and social welfare, and his delegation. They discussed cooperation between the two friendly countries in the field of social welfare and means to improve it.

Ramadan Recieves Palestinian Workers' Delegation

JN1909150190 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, received today Haydar Ibrahim, president of the General Union of Palestinian Workers [GUPW], and his delegation.

The first deputy prime minister stressed that the broad and sincere mass tide throughout the Arab arena is the

weapon that will destroy the shaky thrones of the traitors, the reactionaries, and the servile followers of the policy of the United States and its ally, the Zionist enemy. He said that the Iraqis will not abandon their legitimate and historical rights from Zakho to the sea. He said the resources to defend this natural right will surprise the conspirators and their allies.

The GUPW president stressed that the honorable Arab workers are ready to bear arms alongside the Iraqi people under President Saddam Husayn's leadership, which has given pride to the Arab people.

The meeting was attended by Fadil Mahmud Gharib, president of the Iraqi Workers Union.

Paper Says Law 'Protecting' Funds Legitimate

JN2009113690 Baghdad INA in English 1035 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 20, INA—AL-JUMHURIYAH daily of Baghdad has confirmed that springing from its independent policy and respect of its sovereignty and rights and national riches of its people, Iraq is firmly determined to protecting its interests and reciprocating all aggressive practices.

In its editorial, the paper said that the issuance of law No. 57 for 1990 pertaining to protecting the Iraqi funds and rights in and outside came in conformity with Iraq's legitimate rights to keep them from excesses of any party in the world, and as an expression of exercising its normal right against the governments that adopted oppressive measures and blocked the Iraqi funds abroad.

The daily dealt with hostile measures managed by Bush Administration against Iraq, expressing with regret that friends of the United States had swiftly responded to pressures of the White House and blocked the Iraqi funds present in the states.

Nation Announces Manufacture of Refrigeration Oils

JN1909151390 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 17 Sep 90 p 6

[By Maha Maki al-Ashtari]

[Text] The General Establishment for Refining in the north and the Quality Control Department for Petroleum Products have been able to manufacture refrigeration oils. This is considered a meaningful accomplishment in the current stage.

This was told to AL-JUMHURIYAH by Karim al-Shamma', director of the Quality Control Department for Petroleum Products in the Oil Ministry. Al-Shamma' said: For several years, the Oil Ministry has sought to expand in the field of manufacturing national petroleum oils. These efforts have had a special nature and momentum since President Leader Saddam Husayn's 3 May 1990 meeting with the ministry cadres and his directions to all ministers not to import any petroleum oils except after coordinating with the Oil Ministry. Its offices were able to find Iraqi alternatives to scores of oils that used to be imported by various government departments.

He added that refrigeration oils are specific oils with a low viscosity. They are used in lubricating compressors and air conditioning and cooling systems. These oils used to be imported with hard currency, at any rate.

Scientific and field studies carried out in the country and in world laboratories have shown that these oils will be manufactured in compliance with approved world specifications and that they are compatible with foreign oils. Thus, our country no longer needs to import these oils.

Karim al-Shamma' said that after experimental laboratory and field tests were successful for the aforementioned oils in their various degrees (IZO-32, 46, and 68) [figures as published], the ministry will produce them in 200 liter barrels. By this accomplishment the Oil Ministry will have broken one of the many circles of the economic embargo and will have contributed in thwarting the conspiracy to disrupt development and progress in our dynamic Iraq.

37th Group of POW's Arrive in Baghdad

JN1409142090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0835 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Sep (INA)—The 37th [as received] group of Iraqi prisoners of war [POW's] arrived this morning at the prisoners delivery center in the al-Mundhiriyah border area. The prisoners were accorded an official and popular reception in which mass and popular organizations and a large crowd of citizens took part.

A new batch of Iranian POW's, whom Iraq has decided to release pursuant to President Saddam Husayn's humanitarian peace initiative, has left the Iraqi territories.

Soldier Killed in Gaza; Curfew in Rafah

TA2009195090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] A curfew has been placed on Rafah in the Gaza Strip. This follows the killing by fellow Arabs of a woman accused of helping the authorities. The incident took place on Tuesday night. [passage omitted]

In Jerusalem, a car was destroyed by fire today. Arson is suspected. The car, owned by an 'Akko resident, was parked near the old Mandelbaum Gate, which once divided west from East Jerusalem. [passage omitted] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 20 September adds: "A Renault car and a Peugeot pickup truck were set on fire a short while ago and badly damaged on 'Oley Hagardom Street in the Armon Hanetziv neighborhood in Jerusalem. A rental car was also torched today near an East Jerusalem hotel, and yet another car, with an Israeli license plate, was set on fire on al-Zahra Street in East Jerusalem. "A pipe bomb planted at the Ma'ale Adumim intersection was discovered and safely dismantled."]

Palestinian refugees in the Gaza Strip stoned to death an Israeli reserve soldier and set his car on fire with the body inside. The soldier apparently drove his civilian car into the al- Burayj refugee camp by mistake. The family of the soldier has been informed. A curfew was imposed on the camp, and a number of residents arrested.

Science Minister's Adviser Returns From Moscow

TA2009202790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] A high-level committee will be set up in the Kremlin soon to coordinate commercial and scientific relations with Israel. This was announced this evening by Professor Eliyahu Zemtsov, the science and technology minister's adviser, upon his return from Moscow.

In a talk with our correspondent Meron Tzur, he noted that two of the members of the committee will be Deputy Prime Minister Sitaryan and Finance Minister Pavlov. According to the science and technology minister's adviser, the visit of Moda'i and Ne'eman to Moscow was very successful from the Russians' point of view.

Closer USSR Ties Seen

TA1809104190 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 Sep 90 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Hemi Shalev]

[Excerpt] The meeting between Foreign Minister David Levi and his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze will yield dramatic results, possibly culminating in an upgrade of the relations between Israel and the Soviet Union.

This was the assessment yesterday by political sources in Jerusalem in the wake of Ministers Yitzhaq Moda'i and Yuval Ne'eman's talks with Soviet President Gorbachev, and Foreign Ministry officials' conversations with Soviet officials late last week.

It has been learned that in the meeting with Gorbachev, the Soviet president stuck to the view that Israel must accept an international conference before full diplomatic relations can be established. In the Foreign Ministry officials' talks, however, far softer versions of this condition were voiced, so Jerusalem does not rule out the possibility that Soviet policy on this issue has changed and that the Soviet Union may not insist that Israel agree to the convocation of such a conference before it raises the level of bilateral relations.

In conversations between officials from the Israeli and Soviet Foreign Ministries, Israel announced that it will agree to demonstrate "flexibility" with respect to Soviet claims to property in Israel. This issue has been under discussion for nearly three years and has been a source of tension between Jerusalem and Moscow.

Justice Ministry sources reported last night that they know nothing about a change in Israel's stand regarding the Soviet property claims and that they had not been consulted about a change in the policy.

Yosef Govrin, the Foreign Ministry assistant director general for East European affairs, is due back in Israel today. He will give detailed reports on the meetings in Moscow to the top Foreign Ministry staff.

Meanwhile it has been learned that the Soviets have turned down Israel's request to increase the staff at the consular delegation in Moscow, which has been encumbered by the load of granting thousands of visas to Jews seeking to emigrate to Israel. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 18 September, in a report by Shim'on Schiffer and Gabi Brunn on page 3, adds that in the talks in Moscow, "the following topics were examined and discussed: 1) The Soviet Union asks Israel to help it in computer technology and in other technologies related to the automation of government ministries and industrial plants. This is considered an especially sensitive area and Israel will have to discuss it with the United States because it touches upon technology transfer agreements which are subject to U.S. legal limitations. 2) The Soviets suggest that Israel establish in the USSR agricultural produce packaging and storage plants. 3) It was also suggested that Israel set up food processing plants. 4) The possibilities for joint USSR-U.S.-Israeli manufacture of a passenger aircraft will continue to be reviewed." Schiffer and Brunn also report on "an impending development: A permanent Israeli representative will be attached to the Soviet Academy of Sciences, and a Soviet delegate will be attached to the Science and Technology Ministry in Jerusalem within the framework of closer scientific and research ties between the two countries."]

August Consumer Price Index Rises 1.6 Percent

TA1409135590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] The August Consumer Price Index [CPI] increased by 1.6 percent, an exceptional rate for the month. Housing costs grew by more than three percent, contributing 0.7 percent to the index. Our economic affairs correspondent Menahem Friedman reports that the normal expenses of an average family currently stands at 3,410 shekels [approximately $1,700] a month. Excluding housing costs, normal expenses amount to 2,680 shekels.

In their next paycheck due at the end of the month, salaried workers will receive a 5.7-percent cost-of-living increment. That rate was computed upon publication of the CPI.

Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar said in reaction that the CPI indicates that inflation is being contained. It is therefore important to preserve the cost-of-living increment payment mechanism. He expressed satisfaction that in this matter the Histadrut stood its ground firmly and did not concede anything despite the heavy pressure it was subjected to.

Dov Lautman, president of the Industrialists Association, has called on the Histadrut to reopen the cost-of-living increment agreement, including discussions on the increment due to be paid on 1 October. He told our correspondent Sheli Yehimovich that the Association will not break agreements that had been signed with the Histadrut, but that—in view of the new economic situation—it is inconceivable for the Histadrut to make believe that nothing has changed. He maintains that the cost-of-living increment agreement should be amended to limit the scope of unemployment.

New Tax on Fruit, Vegetables, Tourist Services

TA1909094390 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Sep 90 pp 1, 11

[Excerpt] Beginning November 1, fruit and vegetables will be subject to a value added tax [VAT] of 16 percent, the government decided yesterday, despite heavy opposition from the public, the produce trade, and Agriculture Minister Refa'el Eytan.

VAT will also be extended to cover tourist services, albeit at the lower rate of 8 per cent, and not until June 1991. Fruit, vegetables and tourist services had previously been exempt from VAT. The new levies require Knesset Finance Committee approval within 90 days of their imposition.

A special ministerial committee established last week to study the Finance Ministry's proposal to impose VAT on agricultural produce and tourist services reached its conclusions despite heavy opposition from trade unions and farm leaders.

Yitzhaq Moda'i, Dan Meridor, Moshe Nisim and David Magen, the members of the committee, gave the tourist industry a partial concession by cutting its VAT in half and delaying the imposition of the tax by eight months. The tourist industry is ailing as a result of the Gulf crisis and is facing a difficult winter. [passage ommitted]

Labor Party Figures Review Current Issues

TA1809110190 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 Sep 90 p 2

[Report by party affairs correspondent 'Aliza Wallach]

[Text] "An accelerated arms race is under way in the Middle East, and we will have no choice but to participate in it," Knesset Member [MK] Yitzhaq Rabin said last night, adding that "Israel will find it very difficult to object to the sale of weapons to Saudi Arabia."

In a meeting of the Labor Party's political council, MK Rabin reviewed the changes in the Eastern bloc and developments in the Persian Gulf crisis. "I would recommend that the Americans be allowed to weigh their own considerations," he said. "I believe President Bush will decide on a military option only as the last resort."

Referring to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, MK Rabin said that "it is in Israel's interest that Jordan remain under the Hashemite house, not, God forbid, under the rule of the PLO or another fundamentalist regime. The peace process can take one of two courses: the first, an Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. process, and this time also a Soviet one, which favors dealing with the Palestinian problem in the territories. This option is preferable from our standpoint. The second is an international conference in an effort to tackle the overall issues. This would be a mistake."

MK Rabin took issue with the prevailing approach in the Likud, according to which we must first make peace with the Arab countries and later solve the Palestinian problem. "If we do that," he warned, "we will reach a solution to the Palestinian problem under the worst terms."

MK Rabin also touched upon the Labor Party's current situation and talked about reorganization plans after the Gulf crisis is resolved. Other speakers at the session also discussed this subject.

"The Labor Party's predicament is a little complicated," Party Secretary General MK Mikha Harish said. "After the crisis has stabilized, the new circumstances will require a different type of party activity."

"One could ridicule the Likud, but those who went to Brussels and Moscow were their men," said MK Mikha'el Bar-Zohar, recommending that his party blame only itself. "Where is the Labor Party today?" he challenged the party leadership. "This calls for taking stock and drawing lessons—both of which we refuse to do."

"The party, in its opposition role, is being portrayed as totally cut off from what is happening in Israel," said [former Justice Minister] Hayim Tzadoq, who suggested that "in contrast to its past erroneous forecasts, the party be more modest in predicting the future."

It should be noted that there appears to be more self-flagellation about the dissolution of the [unity] government. Last week MK Ya'aqov Tzur explicitly said at a party forum: "We made a mistake in assessing the political developments when we decided to bolt the government. No doubt this exacts a political price."

According to MK Tzur, "our goal now is to offer ourselves forces as an alternative. We must not accept the paralysis, confusion, and moroseness that has plagued the Labor Party. The party has turned into a race in which everyone, helped by his associates, declares himself leader. This is sad and absurd."

High School Students Polled on Security Issues

TA1709063290 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Sep 90

[Text] Two-thirds of Israeli high school students support encouraging Arabs in the territories to emigrate, and 40 percent say returning land is a blow to Zionism. This, according to a survey conducted by the Institute for Applied Social Research. Students surveyed agreed that the territorial issue is the central expression of Zionism today. Ninety percent of the students identified themselves as Zionists, and 50 percent said they wouldn't want to live anywhere outside Israel. More than two-thirds said public criticism of the government on security issues should be against the law. The survey was conducted last September on 1,800 students from 24 Jewish schools. The education minister has appointed a body to study the survey and suggest appropriate action.

[A report by Bill Hutman on page 2 of the 17 September issue of Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on the same topic adds that "the study indicated that schools have little influence on the moral and political views formed by young people," and that "school programs designed to teach democratic values are largely ineffective in changing pupils' views, in light of the much stronger influence of their families, peers, and community." It is noted that "the survey was conducted just over a month after the Bus 405 killings," in which more than 15 people were killed when an Arab violently forced an Egged bus traveling from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem into a ravine, "so the negative reaction of the pupils towards Arab residents of the territories was to be expected," according to an Education Ministry official. "According to the survey, when faced with choosing between the conflicting objectives of democracy and Zionism, teenagers overwhelmingly chose to sacrifice democratic principles. Of the pupils questioned, 60 percent favored Israel holding onto the territories even if it meant human rights would be violated."]

Mediterranean Pollution Agreement Signed

TA1709185090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Sep 90

[Text] Israel has signed an international agreement to prevent pollution of the Mediterranean Sea. It became the last of all the Mediterranean countries to do so. The accord was first introduced 14 years ago. Israel first had to approve legislation barring pollution of the sea from land sources.

King Cables Hassan; Says Efforts To Continue

JN2009184990 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Cable from King Husayn to King Hassan II of Morocco on 20 September on Husayn's departure from Rabat]

[Text] His Majesty Brother King Hassan II, may God preserve him.

Rabat.

While departing your sisterly country, it pleases me and the accompanying delegation to send to his majesty my dear cousin profound appreciation and thanks for the affection and care you have given us and the opportunity you made available to me to meet with you and Brother President Chadli Bendjedid at this delicate stage for our nation, which requires a profound Arab awareness of what we are facing. It also requires a joint Arab effort that rises to the level of this awareness in order to maintain this nation's human role and mission and to safeguard the homeland and the future of its generations.

Our talks at the blessed meeting have been an honest reflection of all that, and we will continue our contacts and efforts to reach, God willing, the aspired objective in a manner that maintains the rights of Arab peoples and secures their interests while confronting the challenges of the post-cold war era and the developments and changes it carries for this world.

I beseech God to grant you success and your homeland and people all well-being and progress, hoping our continuous efforts will reach their noble end. God's peace and blessings be upon you.

[Signed] Your brother, Husayn.

Returns From Rabat

JN2009181290 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn returned home from Rabat this evening after taking part in a tripartite summit with His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The three leaders held a meeting at the Skhirat Palace in Rabat during which they discussed the Arab situation, the Gulf crisis, and means to settle it within the Arab framework.

His majesty was received at the airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the Senate president, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the chief chamberlain, ministers, his highness [King Husayn's] private secretary, the chief of staff, director of the Public Security Department, senior civilian and military officials, and the Moroccan charge d'affaires in Amman.

Returning in the company of his majesty were the Royal Hashemite Court chief, his majesty the king's political adviser, and the deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Japanese Television Interviews Prince Hasan

JN1909053890 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1900 GMT 15 Sep 90

[Interview with Prince Hasan by an unidentified reporter from Japanese Television; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Good evening, Your Highness.

[Hasan] Good evening.

[Reporter] Jordan is known to have a unique and close relationship with Iraq during and after the Iraq-Iran war, and Jordan has made its position clear regarding the UN sanctions against Iraq. But, if worse comes to worst, God forbid, and the situation in the Gulf escalates to a possible military confrontation, where would Jordan stand at such circumstance?

[Hasan] Jordan had cordial relations both with Iraq and Kuwait before the crisis, and Iraq's action in Kuwait, and the subsequent annexation. Jordan is principled in its stance against annexation both in the case of Kuwait, and indeed in the case of Afghanistan, the Falklands, or Jerusalem. On the subject of sanctions, we made it very clear to the Japanese Government that Jordan has adhered to sanctions and in terms of the political solution of this crisis. We are hopeful that that possibility after Helsinki still exists. However if there is a war in the region, particularly with the heavy buildup of the forces of many nations on the soil of Saudi Arabia, which, of course, is in response to a sovereign demand from Saudi Arabia, but which has already created great confusion in the region and deep bitterness in the region, particularly in the Muslim and the Arab street, this war could not be limited. And, certainly in terms of this country, it would be extremely important for us to defend our sovereignty against any aggression. It is very clear that our role is unique because it has attempted and will continue to attempt to find a peaceful solution in the case of war. Clearly, we have a very difficult situation—the heavy Western presence, the international forces presence in Saudi Arabia, Israel to our West—and I think that the main responsibility would be to defend our territorial integrity.

[Reporter] Your Highness, in your view, what would be the best possible criteria in which the Gulf conflict can be resolved comprehensively?

[Hasan] The achievement in Helsinki is not in what was said, but maybe in what was not said. I think that the door was left ajar for a political settlement. And, even in the statement of President Bush to the union he made it very clear that the preservation of the credibility of the superpower was vital. We believe that the preservation of that credibility of a superpower can be achieved by impressing on all parties—that is to say, Iraq and the Arab countries involved, including the southern Gulf states—the need for a regional solution. And I believe that the solution clearly would have to be embodied in

United Nations Resolution 660 which refers clearly to the need to end this annexation, to withdraw troops. And, and as far as this country is concerned, certainly it is very important to add that Article 4 of Resolution 660 refers clearly to the importance of an Arab role in resolving the inter-Arab issues. So there is not a void, and the reason for military friction should not recur. Clearly, as far as Resolution 664 is concerned, and the subject of foreign nationals, this country is very clear on the subject of third party foreign nationals. And, we are happy to see a special representative from the secretary general of the United Nations visiting the area in the next two days with the specific mandate of humanitarian concern for them. As far as the subject of withdrawal is concerned, this is where the difficulty clearly lies. Because clearly both parties—the Iraqis on the one side and the other party, the multinational force, as it is called, although of course it is not yet a cohesive United Nations force; it still reports in terms of sovereignty to the individual governments—have not given the subject of withdrawal the attention it deserves. Now we don't know, of course, if diplomatically there is any give and take on this subject, but clearly withdrawals cannot take place under the threat of intimidation from either side. So, we have to wait and see if a formula can evolve. However waiting and seeing also means a great deal of danger, because those troops are building up and acts of violence are taking place, including the shooting at tankers or the subject of the embassies and so forth. So, this has to be contained before it gets out of hand.

[Reporter] Your Highness, the problem of evacuees has been, along with the tension in the Gulf, striving neck to neck in drawing the world's attention, and Jordan has been in an unenvious position in that concern. At this stage, what do you ask of the international community in general, and of Japan in particular?

[Hasan] We have received the equivalent of 15 percent of our population over the past several days. What we ask of the international community is to regard this as a humanitarian case. We are not interested in making commerce out of this human tragedy. The difficulties that we face economically are very clear and they include, of course, the loss of 50 percent of our GNP. If the OECD [Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development] have lost one percent... [changes thought] and this is a very severe test for Jordan. But on the subject of humanitarian relief to evacuees, we have done everything that we possibly can. We are not satisfied with what has been achieved thus far, and, in particular, we would like to see a renewal of the appeal in terms of transportation, and we hope that it can be impressed on the international community that the subject of foreign nationals, of course, is still the tip of the iceberg. There are still hundreds of thousands of them in Iraq and in Kuwait, and only through relieving tension can we keep them in that context rather than witnessing this continuous human flow. So we do need international assistance in terms of transportation and in terms of, I think, the basic necessities of life; food and shelter. However, the situation at the moement seems to be static. We hope it will not be resumed with over 360,000 Asians, largely in the Baghdad area, who may r[illegible] out at any time.

[Reporter] Your Highness, Jordan's economy, as you told me now, has been severely hit as a result of the UN embargo imposed upon Iraq. What role would you like to see played by the Japanese Government?

[Hasan] These are UN Security Council sanctions. We expect the sanctions committee to play the role of assessing Jordan's economic losses on a dynamic basis. We are not interested solely in compensation, because pecuniary compensation does not resolve the organic trade and varied investment ties that bind us to our three major trading partners: Iraq and Kuwait, and, of course, Saudi Arabia. So, I would like to make it very clear that if, conceptually, the Japanese Government can pay more attention to the particular needs of the individual countries. [sentence as heard] We are very aware of the generosity of the Japanese Government in offering assistance for Turkey, Egypt, and Jordan. But we do not intend to move our economy onto the dole. Pecuniary compensation is not what is required. What is required is a clear understanding of the demographic responsibilities that Jordan shares as a result of its central position and of the political economy which we have had to live vis-a-vis the Palestinian question on the one side, and vis- a-vis the Gulf on the other, and if we are to play a moderate pivotal role, this should be understood in greater depth .

[Reporter] Your Highness, there are 141 innocent Japanese nationals still being held in Iraq. Do you have any idea on when can they be released, as this is a great concern of the Japanese public?

[Hasan] I am aware of over a thousand different nationalities, including Japanese, who have left over the past few days, and clearly, we hope that no harm will come to innocent nationals of third countries. As far as the hundreds of thousands of Asians who have moved from Iraq to Jordan, we are aware that this is not limited to particular nationalities. Clearly, we hope that the tension can be decreased and the reason, if there is a reason, for their remaining in Iraq can be resolved in a spirit of peace. I do not have any timetable on this subject, nor would it be for me to comment.

[Reporter] Your Highness, would there be any Iraqi requirement of the Japanese Government that could ensure the release of the stranded Japanese people?

[Hasan] I am not in a position to comment on the chemistry of diplomacy between Tokyo and Baghdad. I just hope that diplomacy has not been excluded by the emphasis on the international mobilization of the military machine, which is phenomenal to both on the Iraqi side and in terms of the southern Gulf states. I hope that the billions of dollars being spent on this mobilization could contribute to stability and peace, short of war. I hope that the presence of forces, diplomacy through other means. [sentence as heard] But I would also make

it very clear that in terms of the disparities that exist in this region between haves and have-nots this is a subject worthy of the Japanese Government's attention in the context of a CSCA, a conference for security and cooperation in Asia, possibly in the Middle East. I know you have experience in this field, and that would include, of course, an economic component, a disarmament component—particularly in terms of weapons of mass destruction—and a political route map for the oustanding issues, whether in the Gulf, or in Palestine, or in Lebanon, or in terms of any other potential flashpoints.

[Reporter) Thank you very much, Your Highness.

Hawatimah Meets With Members of Democratic Party

JN2009105990 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 20 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] Al-Zarqa', AL-DUSTUR—Nayif Hawatimah, secretary-general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], met the day before yesterday, Tuesday, with members of the Jordanian People's Democratic Party (HASHD) in the al-Ramlah Society building in al-Zarqa'.

During the meeting, Hawatimah discussed the PLO's current situation and the dimensions of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the conflict in the Gulf. He stressed the need for all nationalist forces to confront the foreign troops present in the Gulf.

He said: The DFLP believes in the democratic approach in dealing with all parties in an attempt to offer a new example for the Palestinian national movement.

Hawatimah added: We in the Palestinian national movement work for a new dawn on the basis of victory for the intifadah and on the basis of the triumph of Iraq with its military and technological capabilities.

He also stressed the national unity of the Palestinian people and the PLO, the independent Palestinian national decisionmaking, and the strengthening of national unity in the occupied Palestinian territory and abroad.

He concluded by saying the hour of the intifadah's victory is approaching because the end of the long, dark night is almost over.

Defends Nation Against U.S. Criticism

JN2009120090 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 20 Sep 90 Second Edition p 4

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has commended the steadfastness of the Jordanian leadership and people in the face of the American policeman and the expansionist Israeli threats, in addition to their stand against the U.S. and Atlantic intervention in the Arabian Gulf and their insistence on rejecting any Arab cover for the foreign intervention.

He said: The U.S. Administration itself is playing the role of policeman in the Middle East region. The U.S. State Department spokeswoman insolently protested against brave Jordan's hosting of the Arab Popular Forces Conference and against the PLO leaders' participation in the conference 20 years after their departure from Jordan.

He added: We greet the steadfastness of brave Jordan in the face of the U.S. policeman and the expansionist Israeli threats. We greet the people of Jordan and their responsible leadership in standing against the U.S. and Atlantic intervention in the Gulf and their insistence on rejecting any Arab cover for foreign intervention.

The U.S. Administration has supported and remained silent over the Israeli occupation throughout the past 23 years. It denied our people's right to repatriation, self-determination, and independence. It opposed an international peace conference to resolve the Gulf crisis and the Palestine question. Now it is against the human being's right to return to his people and country. Thus, Washington again exposes its double standard of human rights and its hypocrisy toward the Middle East crises.

Responses to U.S. Criticism of Pro-Iraqi Meeting

Kelly Statements Assailed

JN2009142490 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 20 Sep 90 Second Edition p 4

[Text] Dr. Mamduh al-'Abbadi, the official spokesman for the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance [JANDA], has said that the Alliance absolutely supports the efforts made by His Majesty King Husayn to bring about a solution to the Gulf crisis within an Arab framework. He added that the Alliance, in all its political, intellectual, professional, and mass organizations stand in defense of Iraq against the imperialist-U.S.-Atlantic aggression.

Replying to statements by U.S. Assistant State Secretary John Kelly before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, al-'Abbadi said the statements represent a blatant intervention in the affairs of Jordan, which is an independent state. He added that these statements further bear out the policy adopted by the U.S. Administration in its intervention in the internal affairs of other countries, in a blatant and aggressive manner, and are a provocation to free peoples who have an independent will. He said the United States has become accustomed to pursuing an aggressive policy in its attempt to dominate the world, and that this has been crystallized in a presumptuous and blatant manner through the United States' intervention in Arab affairs in the Gulf crisis, which has led to complicating the problem and fanning the flames of the conflict to the brink of explosion.

He added that the statements made by the U.S. official contravene the democracy the United States brags about, and confirm that the Americans deal with the Arab

nation on a basis in conflict with democracy. He also said that the Arab Popular Forces Conference, which was convened in Amman recently, made its decisions in a true, democratic manner and expressed the position of mass Arab organizations and institutions that were elected democratically. In this conference, he added, the representatives of the Arab nation have said their word in support of fraternal Iraq, in an atmosphere of true democracy that prevails in Jordan, without the interference of any side. John Kelly had said that he is shocked by the massive meeting held by Arab radical forces at the end of the week, and especially its strong anti-U.S. tone, as he put it.

Speaker Denounces Statements

JN2109094390 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Sep 90 pp 1, 15

[By Mamduh Hawamidah]

[Text] Sulayman 'Arar, speaker of the House of Representatives, has denounced the statements made by a number of U.S. officials on the convocation of the Arab Popular Forces Conference in Amman.

Replying to a question by AL-RA'Y, 'Arar said: Instead of asking her country's administration about the misdeeds it committed and continues to commit against the Arabs, which angered the Arabs and made them declare it their enemy, the official U.S. spokeswoman chose to denounce a rally held in Amman during which the conferees expressed their anger and resentment against the U.S. policy.

He added: Every Arab is entitled to ask what the United States has not done against the Arabs in general and the Palestinian people in particular, especially because of:

1. The weapons it is pouring into Israel to cause more killing, aggression, demolition, and expulsion of the Palestinian people;

2. The advanced technology that turned Israel into a fortress equipped with the most modern equipment, particularly in the war sphere, starting with Star Wars and development of missiles, and ending with spy satellites that Israel managed to launch, not based on its capabilities and brains, but after concluding a strategic agreement, at the expense of the United States and with the help of its scientists;

3. The money with which it sheltered the world's Jews and which it is using to arm this huge army and spend on all conspiracies; this money is extended to them from the surplus of Arab funds deposited in the United States;

4. The impudent political stands in every domain in support of Israel and against the simplest principles of Arab human rights by influencing or pressuring Western countries and using the veto against the Arabs;

5. Spying and passing to Israel all information reaching the West and the United States to enable it to maintain its superiority and ability to crush the Arabs.

'Arar said no American is entitled to call us to account for a meeting held by part of our people at a time when the United States has turned its official and popular institutions into a den for all Zionists where they meet and get money, information, and arms so that they can swoop down on the Arabs.

The speaker of the House of Representatives added: We are a democratic country which invited part of our people to a conference attended by some of the free people of our nation. He indicated that the invitation was neither official nor semi-official, but a sincere, spontaneous popular one. The conferees discussed what the United States is perpetrating against our nation. No official or semi-official personalities were invited to this conference, contrary to the meetings held in the United States and the West, which are attended by senior officials and during which these officials raise slogans and adopt decisions much bigger than those raised by the Zionist Israeli delegations themselves.

Columnist Assails Reaction

JN2009151490 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Sep 90 pp 20, 18

["Swiftly" column by Ibrahim Sakkijha: "'Dismay' Will Only Lead to 'Depression'"]

[Text] For some time now I have been waiting for the right moment to break the mountain of ice blocking the good relations that Mr. Jonathan Owen, the American Embassy's Public Affairs Officer, has been trying to establish between us—that is between him and me—since he assumed his post in Amman about two months ago. [as published—Owen assumed his post August 1989]

First, we failed to meet at a luncheon. A second meeting was postponed for political reasons. Then a succession of disgraceful U.S. stances toward the Arab nation made it impossible to arrange a meeting with any American, let alone a senior U.S. official like PAO Jonathan Owen!

Whenever U.S. recklessness died down in a day or two, and I thought it was time to break the ice in my relationship with Mr. Owen, President Bush, one of his senior aides, or a male or female spokesman in his administration surprised us with an act contrary to the ethics of government and politics. So instead of thawing, the ice mountain grew bigger and bigger.

Yesterday, I discovered that Bush had remained silent for two days. Neither he nor any official in his administration had said anything to add to the cumulative bitter acts and plots on what has now become known as the Gulf crisis due to U.S. pressure and interference in the affairs of every state—big and small—in this world; from

the Soviet Union to Nigeria in West Africa, and now to Argentina. So I thought the time had come to approach Mr. Owen!

But the United States cannot refrain from uttering a blasphemy for more than two days. Otherwise, it would not be the United States.

So, Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly and State Department spokesman Margaret Tutwiler, who is now President Bush's rival for prime time on television, came out to express the United States' "disappointment", "disturbance", or "dismay"—depending how each news agency portrayed the facial expression of John and Margaret—because Jordan hosted the Arab Popular Forces Conference, whose resolutions called for striking at U.S. interests if Iraq is invaded, and also for the overthrow of the Egyptian president. This is what John and Margaret actually said. They also said that they—that is the Americans—have communicated their disappointment, disturbance, or dismay to Jordan!!

While I regret that this latest U.S. position has again delayed the thaw between Mr. Jonathan Owen and myself, I hope that Mr. Owen will convey to State Department officials John Kelly and Margaret Tutweiler my extreme regret and strong protest; that is my personal protest, of course, against this unacceptable interference in the internal affairs of an independent country, which is a member of the United Nations and free to host anyone on its territory, especially the elite of Arab and Muslim freemen. Neither Jordan nor the conferees are to be blamed if they have discovered harmful and despicable elements in U.S. policy that must be denounced and condemned.

I also hope Mr. Owen will convey to President Bush and Mr. Cheney my strong protest and denunciation of their dismissal of General Michael Dugan, the Air Force chief of staff, simply because he revealed the United States' mean, criminal plan to assassinate President Saddam Husayn and to destroy Baghdad over the heads of its peaceful inhabitants.

I also hope he will convey to whom it may concern among the Americans that we are an oasis of democracy in the Middle East, and that none of our leaders is a graduate of Hollywood or the CIA or is a peanut planter. Still, Jordan can enrich everybody, including the Americans themselves, with the Jordanian democracy that was produced by the recent election results and which permitted the convocation of the Arab Popular Forces Conference, which has provoked U.S. disappointment, disturbance, and dismay. Thank God, the conference has not caused it depression or hallucination!!

Columnist Says Bush Failed To Achieve Objective

JN1909073190 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
18 Sep 90 p 20

["Arab Opinion" column by Mahmud al-Rimawi: "Many Messages Have Been Received Before Bush's Message !!"]

[Text] We do not know if U.S. President Bush has been satisfied with only addressing the Iraqis over the television of their country, or whether he will ask to deliver another message, or to have his own regular program on Iraqi television!

Bush's desire to address the Iraqis stems from a specific U.S. mood, and from a unique evaluation of things. While the Bush administration spares no efforts to impose an embargo on Iraq, silence its voice at international rostrums and fora, and silence its supporters, and while Bush mobilizes armies and instigates allies, followers, and old enemies against Iraq, he still believes he has every right to address the Iraqis through the television station of their country in the same manner that the United States wants Iraq to let U.S. and British nationals leave Iraq to save them from any U.S. military strike against Iraq. In spite of all this, Iraq responded to this strange desire by Bush and transmitted the full text of the message in a step that is unprecedented in the history of dealings with enemies who threaten the homeland. This is a step proclaiming total self-confidence and moral immunity against any attempt at political penetration from outside.

Perhaps Bush was dismayed and disappointed that Iraq has responded to his call and that it has fulfilled it. Such a response has deprived the U.S. Administration of fabricating and launching a media campaign against Iraq to the effect that Iraq is withholding U.S. facts and information from the Iraqis.

But what about the message itself?

President Bush did not succeed in convincing any person that there is a direct relation between his country and the crisis, as there has been no Iraqi or Arab confrontation with the United States, and the right of the United States, not to mention the rights of the other countries in the world to the continued flow of oil has not been jeopardized. Of course, Washington could have voiced its stand on the crisis through the acknowledged political methods and diplomatic channels, including taking the steps it believes appropriate with respect to its relations with Iraq . This is one of the sovereign rights every country enjoys. But the United States bypassed all this to the point of declaring war on Iraq. No Arab or Iraqi can accept this, even if he is at loggerheads with the Iraqi policy. This is so because the Arabs are far too sensitive to foreign interferences in view of the protracted tribulations they had suffered under foreign colonialism and as a result of foreign designs. How then are they expected to feel when such interference takes place by the party which is allied to their Israeli enemy?

President Bush and his administration should have known before undertaking the Gulf campaign that the Arab people are hostile and bitter toward the U.S. policy in the Middle East. What do they expect then, particularly that every Arab, including Arab children, know that the objectives of this interference are to control oil sources, empty the Saudi and Gulf coffers to tackle the

current and future crises of the U.S. economy, not to mention its other objectives of dealing a blow to the ever-increasing Iraqi power center, linking the region to a military and economic alliance which smacks of colonialism, and perpetuating the Israeli military superiority over the Arabs. In light of these firm convictions, Bush's letter did not find the response its owner had hoped it would find.

If some Iraqis and Arabs listened to or read the message out of pure curiosity, this will not make them ignore the other message which is daily being conveyed by the U.S. facts, actions, and policies in the region and which all seek to weaken the Arabs position, plunder their resources, and support the Israeli occupation with all types of lethal and mass destruction weapons.

Day after day, there will be an increasing number of Arabs who will aspire to give the appropriate answer to the U.S. messages unless the U.S. rulers realize their mistakes and desist from the policy of antagonizing all the Arabs.

Paper Welcomes Tripartite Arab Summit in Rabat

JN2009122390 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
20 Sep 90 p 1

[Editorial: "The Tripartite Arab Summit"]

[Text] The tripartite Arab summit held in Rabat yesterday is the first coordinated Arab move of its kind since the Arab solution was foiled and since the option of war and military escalation placed the language of dialogue and understanding within the Arab framework, which was torn apart in the fabricated and impromptu Cairo summit.

What gives additional importance to this tripartite summit, which includes three great Arab leaders, is the fact that it has the necessary seriousness and credibility to open a hole in the wall of the growing military escalation, especially since in the past few days the talk of a possible political solution and endeavors for a possible political option have ceased.

Therefore, we feel this tripartite Arab summit is important. We expect the three leaders to reach through their direct and frank discussions common denominators that will ward off the ghost of war and destruction hovering over the region, and prevent the shedding of Arab and non-Arab blood in and around the Gulf region. We are certain that if the Arabs rally around any plan agreed on by the three leaders to settle the crisis, then the false Arab legitimacy given to the Atlantic invasion forces by the impromptu summit in Cairo will be withdrawn.

The three Arab leaders meeting in Rabat represent now the consciousness of the nation and its collective will to stop the terrible deterioration in the Arab situation and to prepare for a pan-Arab plan to settle the Gulf crisis away from foreign interventions, calls for war and the small instigations made here or there against Iraq and its glorious Arab people.

Paper Views King's Efforts, Rabat Summit

JN2109092690 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
21 Sep 90 pp 1, 12

[Editorial: "Self-Confident, We Continue Our Efforts"]

[Text] The tripartite summit meeting in Rabat is an example of the continuous, sincere pan-Arab efforts that His Majesty King Husayn is making, along with a number of Arab leaders. The summit also strongly proves Jordan's adherence to the Arab solution, which constitutes the only possible option for all parties to end the Gulf crisis.

Thus, the Rabat summit, among His Majesty King Husayn, His Majesty King Hassan II, and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, emerged as another important link in the chain of serious efforts to find a solution to the crisis other than the path of escalation and threats taken by the United States and its allied Atlantic forces.

Despite prior realization of the heavy challenge and full appreciation of the difficulty of the prevailing situation and its accumulating complications, Jordanian diplomacy, led by King Husayn with full awareness, determination, and foresight, continued its thrust, based on sincerity to the pan-Arab cause and full awareness of the dangers of this most difficult stage in our nation's contemporary history.

Instead of giving in to difficulties and ignoring the challenges strongly posed to this nation, Jordan preferred to adhere to its vanguard pan-Arab stance, proceeding from its profound awareness of the facts of the post-cold war era and its realization of the dimensions of the conspiracy, which is targeted at the Arab nation and its future. This has prompted Jordan's leadership to continue its move on all fronts without desperation or hesitation.

Despite all the declared and undeclared stands by some Arab brothers on the Jordanian role, Jordan has continued to adhere to its role and its relentless efforts in order to find an expanded Arab platform that enjoys respect and confidence, and that is capable of tipping the balance in favor of a political solution to the gravest crisis in the Arab nation's history—and this was what the Rabat summit sought yesterday.

While voicing support for our leader and blessing these good efforts and this solid willpower, we hope his majesty's efforts will be met with due response, especially by the Arab brothers who, if they have good intentions, will find nothing in this honorable role but all that serves the Arabs, wards off the scourge of intervention, and spares

the Arabs the danger of bloodshed, destruction of potential and resources, and other similar threats which Jordan is working earnestly to contain and to avert their severe repercussions.

Mosque Preachers Denounce U.S. Presence

JN1509191990 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Sep 90 p 22

[Text] In their Friday sermons, mosque preachers yesterday denounced the U.S. invasion of the Arabian Peninsula and rabbis' performing prayers in Saudi Arabia, along with Jewish soldiers, for the first time since the age of the prophet, may God's peace and blessings be upon him.

The preachers also denounced the positions of the rulers of Egypt for preventing national and Islamic forces from traveling to Amman and Baghdad to carry out their role at the present stage.

They also regretted that some Arab rulers had sent their forces to fight on the side of U.S. forces.

The preachers also denounced some ulema who granted rulings to sultans approving the crusader invasion of the Arabian Peninsula and permitting asking the help of polytheists against Muslims. The preachers recalled rulings issued at the time of al-Sadat granting him "blessings" to go ahead with the implementation of the Camp David scheme.

The preachers said the crime of the U.S.-imperialist presence on our soil can never be forgiven by Arab peoples, and that those who approved the entry of these forces will be punished during their lifetime and in the life after.

The preachers also hailed the Iranian-Iraqi rapprochement and the declaration of jihad against the U.S. invasion forces.

Columnist Chides 'Arab Parrots' of U.S. Policy

JN1809125490 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 16 Sep 90 p 16, 20

["Every Day" column by Tariq Masarwah: "American Standards, Standards of Their Allies!!"]

[Text] The Americans speak, and the Arab parrots repeat after them: There is no relationship between the tense Arabian Gulf situation and the major regional crisis, and there is no relationship between the UN resolution on Palestine, Lebanon, and the Golan Heights and the UN resolutions on the Gulf!! However, when Secretary Baker speaks of "a regional security system for the region," he insists on "not excluding Israel from long-term plans to maintain stability in the Middle East!!"

When President Saddam Husayn presented his 12 August initiative on the implementation of all UN resolutions, the Arab parrots kept by the United States and "Israel" meticulously rejected it, although it was a true opportunity for those fond of the "peace process" to wrench something out of the U.S. Administration. They are eager to push this administration into war and to get rid of Saddam Husayn, as though war with Saddam Husayn is a picnic and as though Arab peoples are like cattle driven by their sticks or dollars!

The United States was in great need of an Arab cover, and the Arab parrots could have gotten U.S. concessions, if verbal only, which they could sell to their peoples, who are afflicted by them. They, however, are eager for war. They are overwhelmed by the desire to watch the American "Rambo" who owns the magic of war technology. He pushes buttons, and the six million-strong Iraqi Army will fall down. Then, the Arab people would fall defeated or stunned by this American who is turning back the hands of the clock within 24 hours!!

The 12 August initiative on the implementation of all UN Security Council and United Nation resolutions has stirred the hopes of millions of Palestinians, Lebanese, and Syrians who have been living for 23 years inside the Zionist occupation slaughterhouse. However, the hopes of these millions, which had dampened when the Arab parrots jumped onto the warm U.S. laps, were rekindled by Iraq's steadfastness and by the roaring Arab masses. Do the parrots know that the Palestinian people has been living for 1,000 days under a complete siege? Do the parrots know that the Lebanese people have been living for seven months with no electricity or running water?? Do the parrots think that Iraq can be intimidated by the embargo or that it will decrease its stubbornness?!

We do not want to talk about the United States or its standards here or in the Arabian Gulf. We want to address the parrots who rushed to their American master. They had the opportunity to save face before their people, who are afflicted by them.

We tell the parrots: The United States and its allies will not dare make the war decision, because each day they get more exposed to its dangers. They have found out that the Iraqis are able to deal with the electronics game and its magic and distort the "AWACS." There is an Iraqi radar for the "Stealth" phanton plane, and tanks are still the leader of desert battles. The U.S. generals have not entered into a traditional war since Korea, while the Iraqi military units have fought for many years and were able within two hours to paralyze 16,000 Kuwaiti soldiers—who were armed to the teeth—with no more losses than normal daily traffic accidents. Oil wells and ports are hostages just like the Western "guests" of Iraq. He who will make the war decision must fight from the borders of Kuwait to Zakho, and must think about 200 million Arabs as well as the Arab regimes they are carrying on their back.

War is no game. Those who rejected the 12 August initiative before Washington and Tel Aviv rejected it should think again! The crisis is long and will exhaust

them, while Iraqi steadfastness will grow, and the pan-Arab will will explode again and again.

Muslim Brotherhood Welcomes Call for Jihad

JN1709172290 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 16 Sep 90 Second Edition p 5

[Report by Faysal al-Shubul]

[Text] Amman—The Islamic Brotherhood Movement has welcomed the call made by the Iranian Islamic Revolution's spiritual guide to launch holy jihad against the U.S. and Western invasion forces in the Arabian Gulf.

In statements to SAWT AL-SHA'B, Dr. 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat, official spokesman of the Islamic Bloc in the House of Representatives, said: Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i's announcement is an expression of genuine belief and affiliation. It is also considered one of the principles that the enemies of this nation have overlooked: that the ties of religion transcend all obstacles and limits laid by the colonialists, and that differences, regardless of their causes and size, will not stop the nation of eternity from stanching its wounds and standing together against its common enemy.

Dr. 'Arabiyat regretted the fatwas [religious legal opinion] that justified the foreign troops' occupation of the sacred lands. He stressed this issue does not need any fatwas, because there is a clear, unambiguous statement in the Koran and the prophet's teachings that forbids invading forces from entering the sacred lands. He wondered why those who made these fatwas had not been asked before, not after, the arrival of the invasion forces, and what they thought about the presence of Jewish rabbis and clergymen in the sacred lands. He said: What do they think about the filth of Western civilization—such as opium, sex, and alcoholic drinks—with the invading forces in the most sacred Islamic places? I wish they could deny what has been published.

Dr. 'Arabiyat condemned the justifications set forth by certain Arab states on the situation. He said: It has been said that the invading forces are 1,000 miles away from Mecca, but this is not true because the American forces are present everywhere in the Arabian Peninsula from Khamis Mushayt to Tabuk and Dhahran. The fleets are cruising in the Red Sea and Jeddah is only 70 km away from the prophet's mosque. The Red Sea, as well as Saudi airspace, are occupied.

The Islamic Bloc leader [as published] also regretted the Egyptian authorities' decision to prevent the Muslim Brotherhood general guide, as well as a number of members of the Movement and of the Egyptian opposition, from traveling to Jordan to take part in the Islamic meeting seeking to undertake Islamic moves to avert war in the region. He said the Egyptian authorities do not have the right to stop elected members of parliament and party leaders from expressing their opinions and contributing, together with their Arab and Islamic brothers, to containing and limiting events whose negative or positive impacts will not spare Egypt, not now nor in the future.

He also talked about Arab and Islamic efforts and said that groups from the Islamic movements in the Arab and Islamic world have called for a meeting in Amman to take action and contact officials in the region to search for solutions that agree with the Arab and Islamic peoples' objectives. He said the objective behind the meeting is to explain the nature of the threat resulting from the entry of U.S. and Western forces into the region, and to make it known that any aggression against any part of this nation is considered an aggression against the entire nation.

Deputies Send Cable to Iranian Leadership

JN2009203390 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Amman, 20 Sep (PETRA)—The Islamic Movement—Muslim Brotherhood—deputies in the House of Representatives sent a cable today to the Iranian leadership in which they hailed the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran—government and people—on the Gulf crisis.

They voiced their confidence in the principled, firm stands of the Iranian leadership, especially at this delicate and crucial stage of our nation's history. They affirmed that the United States is leading huge foreign armies equipped with every weapon of destruction to achieve their constant objectives of confronting the blessed Islamic awakening and imposing their hegemony on Muslim territory, resources, people, and culture.

They said: The stand of the Islamic revolution has been equal to your nation's confidence in you as demonstrated in your declaration of holy jihad against the forces of world arrogance and the assertion that the Iraqi people are a fraternal people whom you will not allow to be starved or humiliated.

They said: Your brotherly position has been met with pride and appreciation by the sincere believers all over the globe. They have shown that this position has hurt the hypocrites and plotters who betrayed God and His messenger.

In the cable, the deputies referred to attempts made by some to make Iran go back on its principled, Koranic stand, saying that believers do not bargain over their faith and that the loyalty of Muslims must be to nobody except God and His messenger and faithful followers.

The cable was addressed to Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, guide of the Islamic revolution; Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran; and Mahdi Karrubi, president of the Iranian Consultative Council.

Shipping Sector Threatened by Gulf Crisis

JN1709065090 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 Sep 90 p 7

[Text] Amman—The imposition of a war risk insurance on ships docking at al-'Aqabah against the looming presence of American-led naval forces enforcing a blockade against imports and exports to Iraq is posing grave problems not only for Jordan's shipping sector but may also threaten the Kingdom's exports of phosphate and potash—the mainstay of the national economy.

While the shipping sector faces an additional payment of as much as $25,000 per week on every vessel that is calling at al-'Aqabah, the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company confronts the possible loss of its competitive edge in Asian and Far Eastern markets in terms of lower freight costs if it was to make its own arrangements to ship its products.

"As of now, we do not have any serious problems as far as our exports are concerned since most of our buyers are making their own arrangements to pick up phosphates from al-'Aqabah, said Ishaq al-Jalal, deputy general manager of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company. "But we have problems in importing some items such as ammonia where we have to pay war risk insurance which raises our cost of production," Jalal told the Jordan Times.

What makes it worse, according to the Jordan Shipping Agents Association, is the reality that there is little reason for the imposition of the 0.25 per cent war risk insurance on vessels docking at al-'Aqabah given the fact that "there are no war or war-like activities or troops or the like (in the Red Sea) as in the Gulf."

"The present U.S. navy unit is simply there to stop ships carrying Iraqi cargo or Iraqi ships entering" al-'Aqabah, the association said in a memo to the War Risk Rating Committee of Lloyds of London, which represented leading cargo insurers.

The memo pointed out that Jordan had enforced United Nations Security Council Resolution 661 calling for international sanctions against Iraq for its takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2, and explicitly prohibited discharge and transport of Iraqi goods via al-'Aqabah. Despite this and an undertaking by the United States administration not to abstruct Jordanian trade, Jordan is facing a de facto war-like situation, seriously hampering its economy, "for no reason or act of its own."

But, if the shipping sector is in a dilemma over the dramatic addition of war insurance on ships heading for al-'Aqabah, the national economy faces another grave crisis: a surcharge which translates into as much as an extra $10 per tonne on the cost of phosphates which may deprive the Kingdom of its competitiveness in freight terms in the international market.

An industry source said the United States and Morocco, two of Jordan's major competitors in the international phosphate market, were trying to "exploit the situation by saying that Jordan is no longer a reliable supplier."

But India, the largest purchaser of Jordanian phosphates, is continuing its regular schedule of imports from Jordan and is determined that it will not allow the situation in the Red Sea to affect its trade with Jordan, according to other sources.

"The schedule for Indian bulk carriers to call at al-'Aqabah to pick up phosphates is set until December this year," said a source.

"Moves are also underway to set the schedule starting January 1991," added the source.

The Jordan Phosphate Mines Company, which exported 6.4 million tonnes of phosphates, and the Arab Potash Company which sold 1.4 tonnes of potash in 1989, are seriously affected "by reason of shipowners imposing an increased rate of freight to correspond with your increased and unreaslistic war risk insurance," the Shipping Agents Association told Lloyds. "If the condition prevails, it could drive the (phosphate and potash) companies out of business," it said. "We have been officially requested by the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company to interfere and bring your kind attention this serious repression on the country's economy."

In addition, it said, "as a result of your increased war risk insurance, freight on inward cargo has also unrealistically increased to an extent that reflects to over 50 per cent on containers from the Far East, let alone many shipping lines that ceased to call at al-'Aqabah in view of the excessive war risk insurance."

According to Tawfiq Qawar, president of the Jordan Shipping Agents Association, the imposition of war risk insurance means that a vessel insured for $10 million will pay $25,000 per week, and to load 25,000 tonnes of phosphate the rate will amount to $1 per tonne. "This equals to more than 2.5 per cent of actual fee on board price of phosphate and 2.5 per cent of the previous normal freight to Europe," he said. The hike could be as much as $18 per tonne for shippers to Indonesia if the additional marine insurance is also taken into consideration, he said.

"We therefore kindly ask to reexamine your war risk insurance rate to be compatible with the realistic situation and also considering the extreme damage on Jordan's economy," the association told Lloyds.

According to port sources at al-'Aqabah the American-led naval force at the Straits of Tiran, the mouth of Gulf of al-'Aqabah, is following a policy of "suspect until proven innocent" in challenging and boarding vessels heading for the Jordanian port.

One of the sources recounted that a Taiwanese ship carring basic raw materials for paint, steel bars, building material and cables destined for Jordan was held back by the American force. "It appeared that the commander of the force was applying a perogative which allows him to

turn back ships carrying any cargo which may be used by Iraq even though it could be destined for a Jordanian purchaser," he said. "The Taiwanese ship, Ari, had to wait for three days outside the Straits of Tiran before it was cleared to proceed to al-'Aqabah after the American commander was satisfied that the cargo was bonafide Jordanian imports," the source told the Jordan Times speaking on condition of anonymity.

One of the immediate effects of such loggerjams at al-'Aqabah is higher prices in the local market for imported products, local businessmen pointed out. "If the situation continues, the rate of inflation could climb, and there is little hope of any contained inflation as forecast by our government," said an importer of consumer products from Europe.

Ironically, reports from London indicated that hull insurance for ships heading for Oman, where dozens of warships are concentrated and which is more closer to the area of possible war risk, is lower than that for al-'Aqabah at 0.2 per cent.

Marine insurance for cargo moving to or from Gulf ports in northern Saudi Arabia have been cut while there was no change in the Red Sea situation. Rates for cargo heading for or coming from Dammam or Saudi ports north of there dipped by 0.25 per cent and 0.4 per cent from 0.5 and 0.525 per cent respectively.

UAE Cancels Scheduled Teacher Loan Program

JN1809100390 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] It has been learned that the United Arab Emirates [UAE] Ministry of Education has apologized for not accepting the loan of 50 Jordanian teachers and 21 educational supervisors who were scheduled to leave for the UAE to work in Abu Dhabi and Dubayy according to job contracts signed with the cultural adviser at the UAE Embassy in Amman last July.

Competent sides at the UAE Embassy told this to the teachers concerned when they came to the embassy the day before yesterday.

Musavi on Possible Release of British Hostages

LD2009202690 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] One of the leaders of the Lebanese Hezbollah militia group, Mr. Husayn Musavi, Wednesday said: There is the likelihood that all the British hostages in Lebanon would soon be freed.

According to a REUTER report from Lebanon, Musavi said: We can say the British hostages would be released, but cannot say whether they would be freed in or after September.

Pointing to the negotiations under way between the British representatives and the kidnappers, Musavi added: The talks are moving in the right direction. Musavi stated if the Westerners do not follow oppressive policies against us, then it is possible that the hostages are released during the current year and no kidnapping takes place from now on.

Fadlallah Foresees Peaceful Solution of Gulf Crisis

NC2009195690 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1505 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Interview with 'Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah by unidentified Voice of the Mountain correspondent on the "A Personality and an Opinion" program; place and date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Correspondent] The situation in the Gulf is still the focus of attention on all levels. The Helsinki summit was held especially to discuss this situation. A lot was said about this summit, which resulted in a common stand being adopted by Bush and Gorbachev. Your eminence, how do you view the post-Helsinki era, whether in regard to its impact on the situation in the area or on the situation in Europe of the 1990s?

[Fadlallah] I believe Helsinki produced a specific result, which was an agreement that the Gulf question would not be solved militarily. This is because the Soviet Union, despite its diminished new role following recent developments in its political status, is still striving to preserve some of its positions and some of its alliances, even though not in a prominent way. Therefore, I believe that the Soviet Union will not easily abandon Iraq. This is what prompted the Soviet Union and the United States to hold talks and to present the problem in a way that will save face for the United States and will preserve for the Soviet Union its role and alliances. At the same time, in the field of international relations, the two superpowers wanted to present a new picture that they agree on the general aspects of the crisis. I believe that following the Helsinki summit the crisis will be handled in a way in which all these forces will act to deter what is being described as the danger to the Gulf states from Iraq. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] After what happened and is happening in the Gulf, some voiced the opinion that the United States, which was using Israel as a major factor helping its policy in the area and which has greatly expanded its presence in the region, is now gradually abandoning Israel, as it has a firsthand influence on matters. How would you comment on that, your eminence?

[Fadlallah] I think that this is a reasonable view and that it is based on several realistic assumptions. We may note that Israel was needed in the previous era, the Cold War, by the United States in order to manage some of the areas of conflict against the Soviet Union and its allies in the area. Whereas now, as America works to reshape the region so as to suit its new image and its strategic interests that may differ from what they were in the past. America is now working to serve its own interests firsthand, while in the past it used to work through reactions or through plans to confront the Soviet Union.

In this light, America may think that Israel could harm some of its interests in the region, because Israel has its own ambitions that are governed by Israel's economic, political, and military position in the region. We are noting with great interest the way in which America is referring to the great role that Egypt has played in the Gulf crisis. U.S. policymakers believe that Egypt has saved the United States when it gave it an Islamic and Arab cover that could absorb all the popular reactions in the Arab and Islamic arenas that oppose the American presence.

Therefore, we have witnessed generosity in the plan submitted to the U.S. Congress to write off Egyptian debts. This plan has a political significance in the sense that the United States is beginning to take an interest in those Arab countries which are committed to U.S. policies and to treat these countries in a way in which it used to treat Israel.

[Passage omitted] [Correspondent] It is being said that the normalization of Iranian-Iraqi relations will have an impact on the events in the Gulf. In what framework is this normalization taking place and what are its anticipated effects?

[Fadlallah] If we study the policy of the Islamic Republic, we find that it is not influenced by sudden situations and is not characterized by improvisation or emotionalism. Rather, it is based on a realistic view of Iran's role in the Gulf. Iran believes it can protect the security and economy of the Gulf in conjunction with the other Gulf states. Iran, which has a 1,000 km coastline on the Gulf, wants to maintain good and positive relations with the Gulf states. Iran wants to give a chance to this policy to prove its validity in the future. At least for the time being, Iran is also trying to enter the international arena. It wants to give the impression that, despite its revolutionary and Islamic character, it does not ignore the international system, especially regarding important issues which preserve for the international system its equilibrium against several acute and emotional acts which some adventurous rulers might take in the areas of security and politics. Therefore, I believe that Iraqi-Iranian relations will not undergo a big change directly affecting the Gulf issue. Iran might adopt some steps to meet Iraq's requirements for food and medicine within the general framework approved by the United Nations. As for

the establishment of an Iraqi-Iranian axis or an Iranian-Iraqi-Palestinian axis, as some talk, I do not expect that such a development regarding the Gulf crisis will occur in the foreseeable future. This is provided that no extraordinary developments occur, developments that could threaten Iran as they threaten Iraq. If such developments do occur, then this will be another situation.

[Correspondent] What you have said represents the viewpoint of the Islamic Republic. In your opinion, what is the background to Iraq's stand and why has Iraq started these steps toward normalization?

[Fadlallah] Iraq believed that the developments in the Gulf issue could lead to another Iran-Iraq war which would prevent it from confronting the United States. The head of the Iraqi regime also may have thought that it was necessary for him to be relieved of the pressure of the Iranian front so that he could pull his forces from that front and deploy them on the new front. He perhaps thought that Iran would feel very grateful for this initiative and that it would adopt certain political stands, especially since his battle is against the United States and that Iran still stands against the United States. Therefore, perhaps he thought this would lead to an Iraqi-Iranian alliance against the United States. Iran, however, which still adopts a stand against the United States—as we have noticed from the recent statements by the leader of the revolution—is handling the issue of its negative relations with the United States in a way commensurate with its vital security, political, and economic interests at this dangerous phase which requires a lot of careful calculations.

[Correspondent] Do you still insist that the Gulf situation will be resolved peacefully and not militarily?

[Fadlallah] Recent events have not changed my view. Perhaps you have heard statements by French officials, who have said a military solution is not anticipated. I can base my opinion on the current status of Soviet-U.S. relations. I believe that war will wreck these relations.

Mansur Says Decision Made To Unify Army

NC2009113790 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Dr. Albert Mansur has told the Voice of the People that a decision has been made to settle decisively the anomalous situation any way possible because the situation is intolerable. Mansur refused to specify the date for this decisive action, saying: We want to implement a decision about this and the sooner we implement it, the better for the homeland and the state. He said that the decision to reunify the army will materialize.

He said there is no need to talk about the measures that have been taken to implement the decision, because they are visible. He noted that the Lebanese Army is morally prepared to implement the legitimate government's orders, because it is the only accredited legitimate force and, consequently, will carry out the orders. Anyone who refuses to execute the orders will have no place in the army.

He said that 'Awn's comments that the Lebanese Army wants to fight itself is political hypocrisy, because there is no Lebanese Army outside the legitimate framework. There is a gang called the Gang of the B'abda Cellar composed of 'Awn and his two comrades. When the army confronts this gang, it will not be confronting the army, but its abductors. [passage omitted]

Military Disciplinary Council Formed

NC2109092490 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Albert Mansur met with the chairman and members of the military investigation committee yesterday and formed a disciplinary council. The decree on the formation of this council has been referred to the Defense Ministry.

The disciplinary council is composed of Brigadier General Haydar Wahbah, president; Brigadier Generals Elie Hayik and Fawwaz al- Misri, members; and Colonel Ahmad 'Id, government commissioner to the council. The reserve members of the council are Brigadier Generals Nizar 'Abd-al-Qadir and 'Ali Hamdan, Colonel Alberto Ghurayyib, and Colonel Ibrahim 'Abbas, government commissioner to the council.

President al-Hirawi, Prime Minister al-Huss, and Defense Minister Mansur have signed the decree. Minister Mansur gave the chairman and members of the military investigations committee the necessary directives for the coming phase.

Defense Ministry sources stressed the importance of the measures taken during the past two days, including the decree issued yesterday on the formation of the Defense Ministry's disciplinary council and Minister Mansur's meeting with the military investigations committee. The sources said that the importance of the investigations committee stems from its task, which involves disciplinary dismissal of military personnel who commit major violations. The sources said that Minister Mansur told the committee that, as of now, every case of desertion from the army or failure to carry out orders will be punished by immediate dismissal. A decree on the disciplinary council was signed by President al-Hirawi, Prime Minister al-Huss, and Minister Mansur and issued yesterday evening. The disciplinary council will deal with officers, specifically those whose offenses are punishable by up to 60 days imprisonment. More rigorous punishment will be handed down by the disciplinary council for cases of treason, conspiracy, rebellion, mutiny, insubordination, theft, and moral offenses. The council has the power to strip offenders of their rank and dismiss them from the military. [passage omitted]

Al-Biqa' Troops Deployed Near 'Awn-Held Areas

NC2009122690 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Sources have told AL-DIYAR that the Lebanese Army under General Emile Lahhud has transported

about 100 tanks, and 50 armored cars and troop carriers from various areas in the north and al-Biqa' and deployed them on the confrontation lines adjacent to those under General 'Awn's control.

Citing its correspondents in the mountain, AL-DIYAR says that units of the 11th Brigade were deployed in the areas of Shimlan, al-Mutullah, and Suq al-Gharb last Tuesday. These units, which are composed from Battalion 112 under the command of Major Shawqi Dhibyan, were posted at the Tourism Ministry and Lebanese radio earlier.

AL-DIYAR points out that other army units were seen near the Lebanese radio building preparing to move to the mountain aboard military transports. On the al-Shuwayfat combat lines, the 12th brigade reconnoitered Gen. 'Awn's positions in al-Hadath and Kafr Shima.

In al-Biqa', AL-DIYAR reports, army units from the north have been moving on the al-Biqa' highway for the third day in a row. Military forces and reinforcements continue to arrive at the Ablah military barracks, from which they proceed to Hammanah and Duhur al-Shuwayr. One tank, approximately 40 transport trucks with troops, civlian cars, trucks carrying ammunition and equipoment, and jeeps have been seen heading for Upper al-Matn on Dahr al-Baydar road. Military groups estimated to be three fully equipped battalions left Ablah barracks, where the 1st Battalion is positioned, for deployment in the Monte Verde and al-Kassarat areas via Dahr al-Baydar road.

Deployment Said Completed

NC2009182690 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] AL-SUHUFIYAH News Agency has cited informed sources as saying that the military arrangements, which the Lebanese Army command implemented in the past weeks on the contact lines opposing General 'Awn's forces, were finally completed today.

The sources noted that these military preparations coincided with the intense political maneuvers recently carried out by government officials to end the abnormal conditions and the rebellion against legitimate authorities. The establishment of the state's authority will then be completed, thus contributing to the solution of most of the mounting economic and social crises caused by the continuation of these abnormal conditions, the sources said.

'Awn Sees 'Massacre' in Military Operation

NC2109095190 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] General Michel 'Awn described the current stage as one of military and security calm and said that there is no room for a flare-up.

In a press interview yesterday, he said any military operation will result in a massacre. He affirmed that Syria will not take part in any such operation because its strategic security is not in jeopardy.

Iran Denies Sending Troops to Saudi Arabia

NC2009201690 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] The Embassy of the Islamic Republic in Lebanon has issued a statement concerning the rumor that the Islamic Republic of Iran has sent military forces to join the multinational forces in Saudi Arabia. The statement denied the rumor and stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran calls for a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis in the framework of regional efforts and not by foreign political and military intervention.

Al-Hirawi Thanks King Fahd for Financial Aid

NC2009153890 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi today sent a cable to King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia thanking him for the financial aid which Lebanon has received from the Kingdom.

The cable reads in part: Custodian of the Two Holy Shrines, Your Exalted Majesty King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz: We received with utmost appreciation and gratitude the news of your generous contribution in support of Lebanon under the present harsh economic and living conditions which the Lebanese are experiencing. Your initiative expresses your interest in supporting Lebanon and your care for the process of the solution which we are steadily and firmly pursuing.

In his cable, President al-Hirawi adds: In my name and on behalf of all Lebanese, I convey profound gratitude to you and to the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia invoking God Almighty to give you good health that you may remain a treasure for the dear Kingdom and Arab nation in establishing right, justice, and security.

President Signs Constitutional Reform Law

NC2109093390 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi has signed the law for constitutional reforms in a ceremony attended by Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies; Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss; and Information Minister Edmund Rizq. President al-Hirawi is now preparing a message to the Lebanese on the reality of the crisis and the coming era in light of the constitutional reforms.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Addresses Army Party Cadres 18 Sep

LD2109083190 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Speech by President Najibullah to Homeland Party activists in the Armed Forces, in Kabul on 18 September—recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear friends, as you see in the course of the present (?created) tradition, the leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan, on a variety of junctures, is holding meetings and discussions concerning the most important events and policies that embrace, on the one hand, the long-term interests and demands of the majority of society and, on the other future developments in society and in the party, with various categories of the people, cadres, and responsible officials, and is by summing up experiences, opinions, and proposals in various areas, advancing and implementing the policies of the Republic of Afghanistan and in accord with the internal and external developments. As far as we can see, this trend is welcomed by the people and party members, and has brought about the hope that it will be transformed into a dominating tendency, [words indistinct] and create a new atmosphere of work and struggle along with the enhancement of the level of [word indistinct] and the further maintenance of independence in the tasks in hand.

Today's meeting is devoted to this (?purpose). I am completely confident that you recognize the necessity of (?reforming) all measures in all spheres. And, in my turn, in order to exchange experiences and to unify the proposals and opinions of the party members in relevant areas [words indistinct] our efforts.

The situation in the country is such that every social, political, and military measure by the Republic of Afghanistan attracts domestic and foreign interest and, reflecting the demands and wishes of the people of Afghanistan, and in consideration of the interests of various countries, has brought about a (?variety of reactions). Thus, coordinating activities in the country and proposing and implementing policies that embrace, on the one hand, the long-term interests and demands of the majority of society and, on the other hand, embrace the legitimate interests of other countries in accordance with the high national interest of Afghanistan, are the most important [word indistinct] before us for the future.

The advancement of the policy of national reconciliation and the presentation of realistic proposals by the Republic of Afghanistan toward a speedy solution to the Afghanistan issue has fostered the realization that the only sound solution to the country's problems is a political solution with the participation of all Afghan political forces inside and outside the country. In order to reach such a solution, and to prove the present realities of Afghan society and to prove [words indistinct], your armed forces, all in all, [words indistinct] (?go through) difficult and hard summits. Independent defense under difficult economic, social, and psychological conditions; [word indistinct] creative pulse of the developments in Afghanistan, preventing sabotage in the society and in the party, the protection and consolidation of the positions of the Republic of Afghanistan in the national and international spheres, all in all, enabled us to travel a long path with patience, decisiveness, and (?resolve). In one word, we (?look) to the hard conditions of the past year. However, this does not mean that we have been able to establish full control over the situation. In order to establish full control over the situation, the unity of action of all forces supporting peace in Afghanistan is necessary. I would like to emphasize the unsparing efforts of the Armed Forces toward safeguarding the gains and preventing the armed activities of the extremists.

We have said many times that internal factors are very important for the political solution of the Afghanistan issue. One of these factors is the independent defense and preparedness of the country's Armed Forces for repulsing and foiling conspiracies by the extremists. Some people may ask me about the gains from the Geneva accords. Comrades, what (?these accords) have provided is a good political and international legal basis, as a result of which, despite conspiracies by enemies who said that the withdrawal of Soviet military units from Afghanistan would not be honored, they returned honorably to their country.

A second question [word indistinct] the stance of the belligerent international forces who took up positions against Afghanistan. I say to you that Afghanistan, due to its geopolitical importance and special strategic position, has always been a subject of international clashes during its history. This time too, after the 26 April [1978] revolution, it became the forefront of international clashes. In order to reduce the risk of international clashes we needed such a document [words indistinct]; and every international platform, whether the UN—who issued its 43rd and 44th resolutions on the basis of this [Geneva accords] and the credit you have grasped and this legal guarantee that we have obtained, we have always been spoken about this position and we defend this position in the Nonaligned Movement or during my visits to foreign countries—in international gatherings, at meetings with heads of state, we all talk of this position. Therefore your position has been enhanced [word indistinct] from the political and legal point of view in the international arena. Now we can see that tension is gradually decreasing. [passage omitted]

The biggest result that the Geneva accords have given us is that we proved to the world that, as their fathers did, Afghans can defend their country, in spite of the collective attack [on Afghanistan] by all the world, the utilization of all the world's weaponry factories, and the various military conspiracies and plots to break Afghanistan into pieces and to divide Afghanistan. However, all the predictions that the regime would fall within hours and months after the withdrawal of [Soviet] forces were

proved wrong. It was you who proved for the world, with pride, that this regime will survive. It has the ability to last, and nothing can be achieved without taking into account this force, this power, this system, this party, and this Armed Forces in connection with the resolving the issue of Afghanistan. [applause]

[Sentence indistinct]. Yes, comrades, it was for these gains, it was for this history; no one else in history, in particular after constitutionalism, which sought freedom, independence, etc. succeeded. Why did Amanullah Khan collapse? Because [words indistinct] a party. Other movements tried to [word indistinct]. This is the first time that a proud party has shown—every day it was said that it is a tribal society, it cannot organize itself—that it has found such an organization, that in confronting every kind of [word indistinct] and international, regional, and world conspiracy and intrigue, it has stood steadfastly. It is an honor for you that for the first time in Afghan history, you have created an organized power, that it has been changed into a system, and has [words indistinct] friends and foes and accepts its reality. [Words indistinct] in particular, you, who are in the trenches every day and every moment. Is there any one? Our gains are very great. A number went. Joined Gulbuddin. Joined Pakistan. From the viewpoint of their own privileges, was it better that he [Shahnawaz Tanay] was a member of the Politburo and the minister of defense, or the assistant of the supreme command, or that he was once sent as a mere commander to Spina Shega—and that too under very peculiar (?responsibility); does he come to Logar or not, and flees again—was this better? In the final analysis I shall tell you, I want to tell you frankly that he has merely been kept for the present on the advice of the ISI [Pakistani Intelligence]; and as for how long he could be used, so that they could catch a number of others—merely for that purpose, when he [Gulbuddin] comes to power and—let us say they do not kill him—what will he do? Make Afghanistan part of a Pakistani confederation?

I think that today, when almost 20 months have elapsed since the withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingent, the whole world says—you can hear too, that the Westerners, your yesterday's opponents, have accepted your bravery and heroism—that hope has been created that they [the Armed Forces] are able to defend their country themselves, not by leaning on someone else's shoulders. This has been the biggest national and patriotic honour for you. [passage indistinct]

I think we were not going in the wrong direction, but in a proud direction. Of course it had risks, there was damage and casualties, there is unhappiness. But when we all joined together on the very first day, did we not decide that we would all sacrifice our lives in this direction? No one knows and no one can guarantee that he or she will live eternally. You knew even before the revolution that if someone revealed anything of the activities of those who were working among the Army, no one's life would be spared. They all were ready for sacrifice. Therefore, how could they not trust a powerful and strong force, ready for sacrifice anywhere in order to hoist its proud national banner among the nations again? We should eliminate such mistrust.

They said: They cannot do anything. They cannot carry out even one operation without Soviet troops. They cannot protect even one inch of their land. They will not last in power even for a few days. They have accused us of great dishonor.

At the moment, you have several gains. One is a result of independently defending the country and the withdrawal of the Soviet limited contingent. You have defended the country and defended its freedom and independence. You did not allow your country to be swallowed up by the foreigners. The 5,000-year history of your country was to be a country whose identity is historically unclear. [sentence indistinct]

If there is no passport [word indistinct] common economy, even there is a joint military force and Afghanistan became smaller [words indistinct]. They [the opposition] are still in a state of despair and hopelessness. Later on I will read resolutions passed by the party and central council showing in what state of despair they are. They are saying: We still have a number of people inside Kabul, ans when we attack Kabul from outside, and they join us from inside, [words indistinct]. (?Such a thing will never happen) if even one of you remains alive. When I arrived here earlier and say you, I was satisfied with the blessing of God: If even one of you remains alive, no alien will govern this land. [applause] How much have they become mindless and stupid in maiking a mockery of these Afghan honors and pride? Even though a number of traitors are found here and have sold themselves, all the people of Afghanistan (?are not like this). [words indistinct]

There are people who play politics. I know them. Let them talk. It does not matter, as it is their habit. They have a different interpretation for words and have an unclear meaning for words. They say that what will happen with the Soviet Union, with perestroyka, will be what happened to our past ideas. Brother, look, don't we have a country of our own? I do not care if the whole world (?catches fire). Are we responsible for protecting our country's freedom and independence and its national identity, or are we responsible for someone else's? We are responsible for protecting our own country, which we have done with honor so far. I do not care if I do not receive a drop of petrol or oil. [Word indistinct] started again. As a result of a technical problem in a factory, it was delayed for a few days. Oil has arrived here for six months. From the viewpoint of contract, only one month of it [delivery] was delayed, which caused some noise [ghalmaghal]. I do not care if [word indistinct]. The Afghan which comes on a donkey from Pakistan brings weapons and distributes them here in the trenches and mountains and fights against you. Can't you go and fight them walking? Should we have cars at our disposal every day in order to go and fight?

What type of Afghani belief allows us to discuss with each other such disrespectable words?

We hear some of these politics-players who say that they [the regime] did not find a place for them. They have lost their ideals. What should I do if they do not consider any issues, even if they are successes and victories, as their own? Brother, they are our honors, you are part of them. Our country will benefit from them. You will benefit from them. Why don't you mention brightness, hope, sacrifices where dozens, hundreds, and thousands of these children sacrificed their lives. They were your best comrades in arms, comrades who sacrificed their heads at the trenches and said that we die for you. Should we forget their bravery and heroism and self-sacrifice? Only for the sake of a sentence that you read in a book, and that sentence was not implemented. [passage omitted]

It was proven wrong. Afghans were able to defend themselves. We were under threat from all directions. We stand against them. Not only Pakistan but, the reality was that the world's swarms [morwa malakh] were standing against you. Wasn't it so?

It is here that I am proud of your Afghani pride and honor. When I go on visits, I hope you see me there and feel how far Afghanistan has come, and how the people look at you with respect. I went to New York, in the United States to attend the United Nations. At that time, the Soviet troops were still in Afghanistan. When one is leprous, no one approaches one. However, when we went to the conference for the Nonaligned Movement, it was seven months after the attack on Jalalabad, there was a rush [to see me]. This time, when I went to France, I wanted to feel the pulse of the West. The Westerners too, showed me the same respect [as the nonaligned countries].

We have not achieved this cheaply. The trenches have been laid here [Afghanistan]. The trenches have been kept powerful here. That is why the world has a higher respect for you. If we had been weak, unable, dishonored, and sold-out here, [words indistinct]. After the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, the military activities of the extremists were intensified. [passage omitted] Their aim was to have an outcome, especially after the withdrawal of Soviet forces, to have a military result if possible, even a very limited one, in order to use this military victory to isolate the republic of Afghanistan. The Republic of Afghanistan and our heroic Armed Forces were able to stand and defend at each step against the extremists.

Therefore, I emphasize again that the factor of our defense and resistance within the last 20 months forms a powerful reason for the process of the political solution and the acceptance of the system in the Republic of Afghanistan as a reality. [passage omitted]

Because the Armed Forces of Afghanistan and, as a whole, the existing system in the country, tied up their fate with the historic Afghanism and national fate of the people of Afghanistan, they prefer an honorable death over eternal subjugation and shame before history and future generations; hence we put ourselves in the strong trenches of defense of the homeland and national honor. You, who are the vanguard of party organizations and have participated in this harsh struggle, can best perceive our difficulties. The perception of them is really difficult: On one hand you were faced with filling the vacuum after the withdrawal of Soviet troops: the difficult winter conditions and above all the psychological atmosphere that was created, all in all demanded strong defensive preparedness and psychological readiness. You all noticed that these conditions and all difficulties [words indistinct]. Is there any other vacuum that concerns us? [words indistinct] is there any other unit that left the country with their artillery and aircraft? (?You can see) during the recent days and during the recent month the supply convoy arrived in Ghowr Province [words indistinct]. We opened Konduz-Baghlan highway permanently. We have carried out operations in Paghman. Two or three months ago we opened Gardez and Turghondi-Lashkargah highways. Now we are preparing for another major duty. The facts must be noted. Nothing can be done without action [words indistinct].

We can now clearly claim in every gathering that the proclamation of the national reconciliation policy and conclusion of the Geneva accords brought about the withdrawal of Soviet forces [words indistinct]. The measures we have taken have warmed relations with a large number of Western countries; some of them are ready to reestablish their relations with the Republic of Afghanistan. [words indistinct] We have ended the state of emergency. The parliament began operating after a period of 15 years. [passage omitted]

All of these measures contributed to the world's attitude toward us, which now proceeds in this direction and reduces the confrontation. There is a democratic plan in one side; that is, to democratize the society, the logical policy of reconciliation. On the other side, there is terrorism, extremism, and fundamentalism. Which one will be chosen? Drug smuggling. The West, whether it likes me or not, has no option but to say that this policy is (?right). [passage omitted] It was you who imposed yourselves on others, both in the military and political spheres. You might remember that I said to you in the march held in February that when the Soviet limited contingents leave, there is only one path for us, and that is to prove our existence in the reality of the social and political life of our country. And we did prove this. Not only did we prove it, we imposed it on others. [passage omitted]

Dear comrades, recently I visited the Soviet Union, India, and France. Despite the fact that our visit to the Soviet Union was for a medical checkup and treatment, I had a series of talks with M.S. Gorbachev and other leaders of that country. In general we can say that the talks resulted in approval of the national reconciliation policy, financial and material support for the Republic of Afghanistan, and efforts by the Soviet Union to achieve a political solution to the Afghanistan issue. Expansion of mutually beneficial economic cooperation between

the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union in various forms and assessment of all the measures to enhance the bilateral character of this cooperation, which at the same time enjoys political importance too, [word indistinct]. [passage omitted]

Afghanistan is a country with rich natural resources. It has manpower, it has national wealth, it has underground resources, it has gas, barite, petroleum, iron, fresh fruits and dried fruits, it has wool, it has karakul and cotton and it can also organize the processing of meat. [words indistinct] Our national income should be increased, but that does not mean that Afghanistan should be seen as a broken hand hanging on the shoulder of the Soviet Union. We have said that, yes, maybe during the first year, because our economy is ravaged by war—the war has been going on for 12 years and our economic difficulties are considerable—we may not be able to increase the national income. But without doubt we will increase it in the next two or three years.

Dear comrades, as I mentioned, the situation now favors a political solution to the problem of our country. This does not mean that the extremists will change their minds on their efforts to achieve military results. We should say it clearly, as in past, we should not only (?stand) with more decisiveness and power in defense but we should aggressively meet the challenge of bullying by the extremists, especially at the moment when they want to have a say in the process of the political solution or to delay this process. It is worth mentioning that our strength from a military point of view is only possible and conceivable when a firm defense, timely attack, concentration of forces to protect strategic and vital points, persistence in deepening and protecting the gains, the establishment of coordination, accurate coordination among the various bodies, and finally the creation of various reserves alongside the logic of the political proposals of the Republic of Afghanistan is being considered. Therefore, the further strengthening and fortification of the Armed Forces in the future, especially in the near future, is one of our (?urgent) tasks.

Dear comrades, [words indistinct] Life has several times placed before us the need for joint action. Whenever this joint action has been carried out with accuracy, persistence, and necessary attention our party has become successful. This was the brief report that I wanted to discuss with you. Thank you for your attention. [applause]

Bangladesh

Nationals Advised To Leave Iraq, Kuwait Soon

BK2009163990 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Bangladesh has advised its nationals still in Kuwait and Iraq to come out before the winter sets in. At a news briefing in Dhaka today, a foreign office spokesman said those who are willing to return home due to the present situation should take the opportunity of coming out as there are a large number of repatration flights lined up from Amman to Dhaka up to the 10th of next month. Describing the present situation in the Middle East as the lull before the storm, the spokesman said Bangladesh does not want its nationals caught in the storm. The stranded Bangladeshis should reach Amman via Baghdad by air or by land, as this is at present the easy route by which to come out.

The repatratiation of the stranded Bangladeshi nationals from Turkey is expected to be completed by Monday [24 September], as there are only 4,000 of them left in camps inside that country. During the last three days there has been no entry of Bangladeshi nationals from Iraq into Turkey. The foreign office spokesman said the Iraqi authorities have now issued exit permits to members of the families of diplomatic and nondiplomatic staff of the Bangladeshi embassy in Kuwiat. They would be leaving Amman for Dhaka tomorrow. Ambassador K.M. Shahabuddin and other embassy officials have not yet been allowed to leave Iraq.

India

Shooting Reported Between Local, Pakistani Troops

BK2109145290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] There has been an exchange of fire between Indian and Pakistani troops in the Machal subsector in Jammu and Kashmir. This followed efforts by Pak troops to cross the line of control and intrude into Indian territory. An official press release issued in New Delhi today said besides rifle and machine-gun fire, Pakistan resorted to mortar and artillery shelling of Indian posts and villages in the area.

Official To Supervise Evacuation From Gulf

BK2009161490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] A high-ranking official in the External Affairs Ministry, Mr. Ratan Sehgal, will leave for al-Basrah tomorrow to take charge as chief coordinator for the government of India for repatriation operations. He will supervise and coordinate all activities relating to the evacuation of Indians from Kuwait. His office will be located in the Indian Embassy in Amman and he will work closely with the Indian missions in Baghdad, Amman, and al-Basrah, and with the Indian associations there to ensure a smooth flow of evacuees by land route through Iraq-Jordan border. At al-Basrah, he will have consultations with consulate officials and representatives of Indian associations on receiving the Indian ships—Akbar, Tipu Sultan, and Vishva Siddhi. The ships are scheduled to dock at Umm Qasr around the 23d or 24th of this month. The telephone numbers of the chief coordinator at Amman are: 622098 and 637262.

Mr. Sehgal has advised the Indian nationals in Kuwait not to take the land route to the Iraq-Jordan border now as there is still a great congestion in Jordan.

Iran

RESALAT Reports on 26 Aug Majles Session

PM2009141090 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 27 Aug 90 p 5

[Report by legal and parliamentary correspondent]

[Text] Report from yesterday's open session of the Majles. Legal and Parliamentary section:

The Majles met yesterday in an open session chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi. During this session, at first the deputies from Nowshahr and Tonekabon gave speeches as pre-agenda speakers. Then Mr. Karrubi made some remarks remembering martyrs Raja'i, Bahonar and Haj Mahdi 'Araqi. Then the Majles went into session.

Below are the pre-agenda speeches and the text of the discussions:
Seyed Faraj-ollah Afzayandeh, deputy for the people of Noshahr and Chalus—It is only in this Majlis that deputies can say whatever they want. This is the only open microphone that exists, which does not exist anywhere else in the world.

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open session of the Majles was Mr. Seyed Faraj-ollah Afzayandeh, people's deputy from Nowsahr and Chalus. In his speech he conveyed his greetings on the victorious return of the freed, patient and steadfast POW's. He said:

I hope the banner of "There is only one God" will one day fly high in the skies of the world, raised by the hands of this land's children. It is a shame that our imam, who has left us, did not see this beautiful sight in person and taste the sweet taste of victory and his ummah's resistance. Of course his long-standing student, dedicated friend and a son who was raised by him, Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, represents the physical being of the imam. Those POW's who for years dreamed of meeting their imam, had their wish granted when they saw the shining face of the child of holy Zahra.

He then commented on the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq and said: I condemn the military occupation of Kuwait by this crazy maniac who has been brought up by the East and West, the blood-sucking Saddam. He must pull out of Kuwait as soon as possible without any conditions. He must not give the aggressive United States the excuse because that giant of aggression wants an excuse to make the Persian Gulf its stomping ground, to make the immoral shaykhs in the region, as well as the Iraqi mercenaries, understand that the United States is still number one among the powers. The treasonous Al Sa'ud should not think that the Americans have come onto the scene to fight against aggression. If the United States was so much against aggression, why did it invade Panama a few months ago? If the United States is so much against aggression why did it not condemn, even once, Saddam's aggression against Iranian soil, his military occupation of Khunin-shahr [meaning "the town of Blood", the name given to the port of Khorramshahr while it was occupied by Iraq) and other Iranian border towns and mass killing of civilians including Iranian women and children? Rather, the Americans and their allies supported Saddam with all their might and armed him to the teeth to bring the holy regime of the Islamic Republic to its knees. Finally the United States came into the action itself and fired on an Iranian airliner bringing martyrdom to hundreds of Iranian men, women, and children. If the United States is against aggression, why is it that it has never condemned the occupier and criminal Israel, not even once. Why did it not bring out its armies to ensure the implementation of the resolution of June 1968 against Israel? Why is it that during all these years that Israel has taken a great portion of the land of Palestine, occupying Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, and some parts of Jordan, massacring the innocent Palestinian people, the United States has done nothing? It even vetoed the UN resolution. It did not do anything about the occupation of Afghanistan by the Russians. There are a thousand other "whys."

It must be God's will to show the evil face of this old colonialist to the whole world in this way so that the innocent peoples of the world, especially those in Islamic nations, can show their hatred for this super-criminal and to bring it down from power. Death to America! Death to America!

The speaker talked about the recent remarks made by Al-Qadhdhafi with regard to the Iraqi acceptance of the 1975 Algiers Accord and said:

On Wednesday 22 August I read in the JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI newspaper a report about that crazy Al-Qadhdhafi. He had said that by accepting the 1975 Accord and by surrendering to Iran's demands, Saddam had betrayed the Arabs. I must say to him, you poor stupid man! All you treasonous heads of Arab states, you are all mercenaries of either West or East and neither of you have a will of your own. Do you not feel ashamed that because he has no popular base, Al Sa'ud, with utmost weakness, has placed the country in the hands of the United States—providing for the expenses of the American occupiers, from the funds of the Muslim people? Instead of throwing the United States out of the Islamic land, you treasonous Arab heads of state start shouting this sort of treasonous slogans. I tell Saddam: Whether or not you pull out of Kuwait, the Americans are going to kill you. So it is better for you to use those Soviet and American guns to make the Persian Gulf a grave for American soldiers and occupiers. Then you should commit suicide rather than be killed by the Americans.

Mr. Afzayandeh continued another part of his speech by commenting on agriculture saying: The brothers from the ministry of agriculture have given a reply to my interview which was published in the provincial section of KEYHAN newspaper on 23 April 1990, when I asked how many of the 7,690 experts were in Tehran and what they were doing in Tehran. They have written back saying that these same experts in Tehran have prepared a consumption patter in accordance with the society's needs. First of all after 70 years of agricultural experience, these gentlemen have just woken up. Then when they write something on paper, there is no action afterwards. Perhaps it is because of these writings that last year because of a shortage of production, potatoes sold for 600 rials per kilogram and this year, because of too much production, the farmer is not getting more than 50 rials per kilogram. This farmer would have had to pay 600 rials for the seeds. Again the result of this will become known next year. If the experts at the ministry of agriculture designated a certain area for the cultivation of potatoes, in accordance with the nation's needs, with a 30 percent increase, and if they bought the produce from the farmer at a fixed price, the situation would definitely not be like it is now. In 1989 we imported more wheat than ever. If work was done only on the lands in Khuzestan province, it would not only provide wheat for the entire country, we would have been able to export wheat as well. It is a matter of shame that the treasonous Saudi Arabia exports wheat and we have to import wheat even though we have the best soil and water conditions. So why do you talk about experts? Why do you make all that noise on the radio and television? Tell us what is preventing your initiatives. Why is it that we—despite having the best land for rice growing in Gilan and Mazandaran province—import several thousand tonnes of rice? Is the entire country of Holland the size of Mazandaran? They export meat and dairy to the whole world. Because of a lack of proper policies at the ministry of agriculture, neglecting the situation of the farmers and farming, the lack of a fixed and fair price for thousands of hectares of the best rice-growing fields in Mazandaran, unfortunately these lands have been sold to rich people from various towns who want to have a good time.

These have been turned into luxury villas. The presence of some of these villas has no affect on the people of Mazandaran other than to spread among them the corrupt culture of the West. If the situation continues the way it is, God knows what will happen to the situation of rice in this country. By the way, it is a good idea for officials to ask rice farmers how effective the ministry of agriculture has been with regard to increased crop yields. Is it the duty of these brothers to distribute fertilizer and seeds or is it their duty to do continued research, increase production, and choose the correct policies? I once gave a warning about the destruction of forests, by officials in charge of forests but unfortunately nobody took any notice. The minister of agriculture who is himself a revolutionary from a family which has given martyrs has not yet had the time to visit the area so that I may show him the damages caused in the forests. I would like to tell Mr. Kalantari that instead of calling it the office responsible for forestry, it should be called the office responsible for destroying the forests. You should know that there is no forest left to be "kept." If someone comes along who is aware, wise, dedicated, and caring and if they see the situation with an expert's eye, they will no doubt be able to give a viewpoint. The hands of these destructive elements have to be cut so that they will not be able to play with what God has given to the people in the way of natural resources.

The deputy from Chalus and Nowshahr talked about a recent speech given by Mr. Ha'eri-zadeh: A respected brother, in his pre-agenda speech last Wednesday spoke in support of a respected religious brother from the Majles, quoting from a provincial newspaper which perhaps does not even have 1,000 readers. Was it proper to repat on the Majles microphones that ugly and insulting comment printed in that newspaper, for all the people to hear? I believe that this was uncaring friendship. The dignity of a person is not safeguarded in this manner—for us to come along to talk about the comments of a newspaper which does not even have 1,000 readers, like that into the Majles microphones.

He said something else which was that if there is criticism, it is silenced. This is unfair. The open microphones that this Majles has mean the deputies say whatever they want. I myself am one of the strongest critics. God is witness—is there anyone afraid of speaking the truth? Is there a place where a Majles deputy can be silenced, if he wants to speak his mind freely about another deputy? This manner of speaking is proof that there is the best form of freedom in this country and the best type of open microphone which does not exist anywhere else in the world. It is only in the Iranian Majles where the deputies can say whatever they want.

'Ali Akbar Taha'i—deputy for the people of Ramsar and Tonekabon:
Without a doubt the United States is not thinking of the Kuwaiti shaykh or Al Sa'ud, but rather is thinking of oil and the resources of the Middle East.

Mr. Taha'i, deputy from Ramsar and Tonekabon was the last pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open session of the Majles. He conveyed his greetings on the recent victories of the Muslim people of Iran and commented on the freedom of the POW's. He said: Without a doubt the steadfast position of the dear and worthy leader Ayatollah Khamane'i, the non-stop efforts of the government, the actions of the dear president and the patience and steadfastness of the great families of the martyrs, those missing in action, POW's and sacrificers [disabled] have provided the groundwork for this victory.

He then commented on the Persian Gulf crisis and said: The futile adventure of the Persian Gulf was planned by the bully imperialism, dragging a regime which was by nature aggressive into another aggression in the Gulf

region. This is a warning for all revolutionaries, freedom-lovers and those who seek justice, especially the revolutionary ummah of Iran. The United States was most definitely not thinking about the Kuwaiti shaykh, nor was it thinking of the Saudi shaykh. It was thinking of Persian Gulf oil. It was thinking of the Middle East's resources. The amir of Kuwait does not matter to the United States just as at that time Reza Khan was not important to them. That day when imperialism thought Reza Khan was no longer of any use to it, it replaced him with another mercenary. Today it comes to the amir of Kuwait and with a pre-planned arrangement, provides the groundwork to set the region on fire in order to sell more weapons to the countries of the region. We must always remember this as a warning.

He continued: Why should we use these microphones to find excuses for the presence of the United States? Instead we should be giving the people of Kuwait and the Muslim peoples the message to learn a lesson from the people of Iran, their past great leader and their current great leader. One must rely on God and Islam. One must rely on pure belief and pure Islam of the prophet to be able to get rid of aggression at the root, not to ask for the presence of the chief of the aggressors. Our officials must be aware now to allow their comments to be abused by arrogant foreign radios and imperialist analysts.

The people's deputy from Ramsar and Tonekabon then commented on the separation of the ministries of Crusade and agriculture. He said: Our brother Dr. Zali who is a respected university professor, who was also Majles deputy in the previous session, is expressing concern over handing over responsibility for natural resources, cattle. and forests to the Crusade. This is a self-centered viewpoint and is dangerous.

Dr. Zali was in the ministry of agriculture for seven or eight years. In 1978 during the cruel regime of the Shah 730,000 tonnes of wheat were imported. In 1987, 4.88 million tonnes were imported. corn imports stood at more than 686,000 tonnes in 1978 and in 1987 totaled 986,000 tonnes. One cannot ask Mr. Majd-ara, who for years was governor general of Mazandaran province what the situation of the forests and natural resources is like in Mazandaran and Gilan provinces? Ask the respected governor general of Gilan about the Chuka wood factory's cutting lines which have been dormant for several months because there is no wood. Then Mr. Zali says if natural resources are given to the Crusade, the current order in production will be disrupted. Some 1.5 million hectares of natural resources have been destroyed. In the forests of the north alone more than 1 million hectares of pasture lands are about to be destroyed.

He continued: The organization of agriculture does not have the capacity to carry the load of this widespread facility with the goals and various objectives. One must think of the efficiency of cultivation in the field of cultivating wheat, rice, seeds, and cotton. Seeds which give edible oil are still produced less than during the Shah's time which is a matter of regret. Cotton is still in worse condition than before and this is a matter of regret. We must value our strategic products in agriculture.

He commented on the UN Food and Agriculture Organization [FAO] and said: FAO is an international organization which has reported—the center for documetns can verify the report—that Iran's growth of wheat, barley and corn is worse than developing countries. This is something worth thinking about.

The speaker continues his speech by pointing out: With regard to the situation of the natural resources, forests, and cattle and their merger with the crusade, I will tell you dear ones—as deputy from an area where most of the country's commercial forests are located—that there will be no negative result. Quite the reverse, there will be something positive. The good forces that exist now in the ministry of agriculture will be like investments who will work alongside the loved-ones from the Crusade to carry on their holy task toward self-sufficiency.

He concluded by reading a part of the imam's message to personnel of the Crusade: "Dear children of the crusade, the only thing that you must think about is to establish the foothold of the pure Islam of the prophet. This Islam will drag through the mud the West headed by the criminal United States and the East, headed by the criminal USSR. This is the Islam whose banner is carried by the poor, the innocent, and oppressed of the world. Its enemies are the heretics, the capitalists, and those who worship money. This is the Islam whose supporters have never had money or power, whose enemies are those who collect wealth, hatch plots, and those who pretend to be holy but have no talent." Why is it that the imam did not write this sort of thing to ministries or other organizations? This is because the people addressed by the imam can rise higher in their revolutionary flight with this line of thought and this kind of thinking. That is all.

The full text of the discussions:
The bill to separate the duties of the ministries of agriculture and Reconstruction Crusade was the first item on the agenda of yesterday's open session of the Majles. All the sections of the bill to correct the budget for the year 1990 with regard to POW's which was brought up by some of the deputies. The "urgent" label was removed and the bill will now be discussed as a matter of priority rather than urgency.

The last item on the agenda was the legal plan to provide the facilities for university education for those POW's who are able to present complete high school diplomas—through the scientific body—which was presented to the Majles as a priority item. The fact that it should be discussed as priority was passed by the deputies.

The Majles will have an open session tomorrow morning.

Reply of QODS newspaper to comments made by Mr. Ha'eri-zadeh, the Majles deputy from Birjand:

In connection with a pre-agenda speech given by Mr. Ha'eri-zadeh on Wednesday 22 August which was printed in the newspaper's 23 August edition, the following reply has reached us, written by the responsible manager of the above newspaper, which we bring to the attention of the dear readers in accordance with the press laws:

Mr. Ha'eri-zadeh, has attacked this newspaper in a pre-agenda speech on Wednesday 22 August, based on his personal understanding of two humorous articles in QODS newspaper. By using phrases such as "cutting off the roots of evil" he has insulted the QODS newspaper and its dedicated personnel who are followers of the imam and Velayat-e Faqih. Now, in order to clarify the issue for public opinion, we think it useful to mention a few points.

1. The humorous article printed under the title of "Complaint from Esma'il's Cabin" was printed in QODS newspaper on 22 July. It is a satire written in a humorous way which talks about people with little education and great demands who want to infiltrate the Council of Experts. But because the regulations of the Council of Experts prevent their entry into this Council, they have become very upset and they are very critical. This humorous piece is written in a very general way which in no way has identified anyone. Nobody has been pointed out directly or indirectly. Mr. Ha'eri-zadeh thinks this piece identifies someone and has started to defend and praise this person. This is exactly his own understanding. The fact that personal views are used to insult a newspaper, goes to show the fairness in the whole issue.

2. The second item criticized by Mr. Ha'eri-zadeh was a humorous piece printed in the newspaper on 26 July. This item is also about people who wrongly accuse the Council of Experts and then claim they are not weakening it. They are compared to people who insult other people, then say they do not mean to insult anyone. This is again written in humorous language which has been criticized. This method is normal among newspapers. Usually, when writing in a humorous way, matters are greatly exaggerated, but articles are never taken as criticism of another article or as insults against people.

3. Even if there was an insult against a person through the newspaper, the press law passed by the Majles spells out the way to confront this, which is through a reply, and specifies that it is the duty of the newspaper to print the reply. The public microphones of the Majles, which are run by public funds, should not be used to level insults at newspapers, which is quite against the press laws passed by that same Majles, nor are they to be used to support and compliment people. In this connection we draw the gentleman's attention to article 23 of the press law.

4. Mr. Ha'eri-zadeh, in his pre-agenda speech on 1 July said: "Let Muslims and religious peoples with differing Islamic views have the right to speak freely and show their initiative. We should hold our legitimate Islamic freedoms in our hands, otherwise the world is full of tricks. We should beware that if self-censorship spreads, if criticism is silenced, and if people make fun of anyone who speaks out—telling him not to complain or shout slogans—if people are labeled as critics—it is not a good thing to use ugly language when describing a Muslim."

Does his method of confronting the newspaper in an insulting manner match his own statement, especially when it is clearly based on his views? Or do we want death only for our neighbors?

5. In another part of his speech Mr. Ha'eri-zadeh said: "Another thing is that the way the Experts are chosen is being criticized by many people but they strangle you if you say anything." Is this statement not an insult toward the holy Islamic regime and does it not bring our revolutionary values under question? Under these conditions when this person has said all he has wanted to say in total freedom, and continues to do so, then what does he mean by "they will strangle you?" Are the logical confrontations of the chief and the members of the Council of Experts, which were based on reason, as well as their adequate explanations taken to mean silencing of criticism? Now that there is no answer to their logic, is there an effort to create an atmosphere before the elections for the Council of Experts, to bring these elections under question?

6. The aforementioned gentleman in another section of his speech has asked for the "removal of all roots of corruption" from the QODS newspaper. Of course he knows the legal implications of the word "corruption." He is aware that mentioning this sort of accusation needs full proof that would stand up in a court of law. If he thinks it would not be necessary to defend his case in a court of law, he will one day have to have a reply for all his insults in a just court of God, especially when it comes to insults against a newspaper linked with the holy Qods-e Razavi organization [administrative offices in charge of grand mosque in Mashhad which has dedicated, revolutionary personnel with clear backgrounds in their support for the late imam and velayat-e faqih [rule of the supreme jurisconsult] and defense of holy Islamic principles.

In conclusion—the imam once said that if there is an insult through the microphones of the Majles, there must be chance for the other party to defend his position, yet we have no hope that this note will be read out in the Majles. But we do hope that at least one respected Majles deputy will read these notes to remove the doubts from the minds of the people and to defend an innocent newspaper which has been wrongly insulted.

Deputy Foreign Minister Discusses POW's

LD2009174190 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tehran, Sept, IRNA—There are still two groups of Iranian POWS in Iraq: First those who have committed some violations, and second those who are reortedly unwillling to return home, according to a senior Foreign Ministry official who visited Baghdad this week.

Deputy Foreign Minister for International Affairs Manuchehr Mottaki told Tehran radio Thursday that an Iraqi delegation was due to arrive here within the next few days after which "we will be able to clarify the date for the return of the remaining Iranian POWS as well as the situation of those missing in action."

Elaborating on the first group, he said they had either committed some violations during their captivity, or had been tried and were spending their prison terms, or were being prosecuted.

The daily exchange of POWS between Iran and Iraq which began a month ago after Iraq accepted Iran's terms for peace, stopped last Saturday without any official explanation. The two sides have exchanged some 75,000 POWS, divided equally, so far.

Mottaki said he had agreed in his talks with Iraqi official that a technical committee comprising experts from the two sides and Red Cross representatives seriously follow up the issue of the remaining POWS at the first immediate time on the basis of the evidences the two countries would present.

"In any case, the Iraqi officials are responsible for each and every Iranain POWS and MIA (missing in action) who have not returned home yet," he told the radio in a special evening program.

Mottaki said the delegation he led to Baghdad on Sunday had discussed three issues with the Iraqi side: the POWS and those missing in action, further talks on border demarcations, and preparations to reopen embasssies. "The results of the negotiations between the Iranian delegates and their Iraqi counterparts were positive," he said, adding that members of the delegation also visited the Iranian Embassy in Baghdad.

On the fate of former Iranian Oil Ministere Mohammad Javad Tondguyan, he said before his visit to Baghdad the international Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had informed the Foreign Ministry that "engineer Tondguyan has been martyred."

Apparently not convinced with the ICRC report, he said he had held further discussions in Baghdad on the fate of the former minister who was kidnapped together with two of his deputies on a government assignment to southern oil fields early in the Iraqi war ten years ago. His deputies were among the civilian POWS released by Iraq last week.

Khamene'i on Importance of Divine Providence

LD2009131190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Excerpts] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the honorable leader of the Islamic Revolution and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, delivered a comprehensive speech at a meeting with the commanders and the responsible officials of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the heads of the vali-ye faqih [vice regency of the supreme jurisconsult] representative offices at this revolutionary establishment this morning. He reiterated the need for maintaining strength, piety, and faith in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; and stressed the importance of paying greater attention to order, discipline, and obeying the instructions of a superior official as a religious and rational duty.

During this meeting, he began by recitation of several verses from the Holy Koran and the anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI], His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, referring to the belief in divine matters and an orderly world based on cause and effect as the point of distinction between believers and nonbelievers, graciously said: Almighty God is the source of life and the moving force behind every action and reaction. Failure to understand the divine world properly, or its denial, would lead mankind to the state of infatuation with worldly matters and reliance on the equations and calculations which are created by human beings. Such calculations generally lead to mistakes, which the United States made in its attack on Tabas and Iraq [made] in its aggression against our western and southern borders. Their evaluation of the manpower, politics, tools, propaganda, and support were correct. But ultimately they gained nothing because there are a series of calculations and cause and effect which are often beyond the materialistic comprehension of mankind. There is rather a need for greater insight which, in accordance with divine verses of the Koran, we refer to as providence. [passage omitted]

Referring to the unprecedented desire among nations to confront global arrogance, headed by the United States, the leader of the Islamic Revolution graciously said: Today in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and Latin America, nations and particularly the Muslims, chant slogans against the United States. The origin of this development, which is unique in the history of the reawakening of nations, goes to the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran. The revolution, in accordance with the instructions of Islam, stressed the need for the struggle of Muslims against tyranny and oppression under any circumstances, because the struggle of the oppressed against the oppressor and the tyrant does not recognize any borders.

The commander in chief of the Armed Forces drew the attention of every individual at the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps to religious education and mortification, and while warning them to be wary of the existance of looming danger, graciously described the methods employed by global hegemonists to confront Islam. He added: The probing eyes of arrogance are seeking ways to confront Islam. The conferences held in the arrogant world on Islam and Shiitism pursue the same objective. You should, therefore, maintain your spiritual readiness, moral strength, faith, selflessness, and devotion to God. The spiritual strength of the Guards Corps cadres should be strengthened to such a extent as to enable them to stand and confront the enemy under any circumstances. [passage omitted]

Yazdi Stresses Executive-Judiciary Coordination

LD2009121490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Excerpts] The first joint seminar of the Islamic revolution nation's provincial capital's general and military prosecutors which started four days ago ended this morning with a speech by Yazdi, head of the judiciary. Our reporter on this seminar:

[Unidentified reporter] [passage omitted] At the last meeting of this seminar Ayatollah Yazdi spoke and stressed the need to coordinate between the executive and the judiciary. This coordination does not mean that the judges, prosecutors, and judicial officials should transgress their legal rights. The main axis of coordination between various powers is the law, and if everyone acts within the scope of his duties and responsibilities within the framework of the law, the best coordination will be created.

Continuing his speech Ayatollah Yazdi referred to the value and dignity of the judiciary and the need to maintain its dignity. There are many permitted acts [mubah; Arabic term in Islamic jurisprudence refering to actions which are permitted but are not encouraged] but they are not permitted for judges, in view of their profession. In some circumstances they could even be regarded as forbidden. [Arabic: haram] Judges should endure all the difficulties in their lives and profession, maintain their independence, and safeguard the dignity of the judiciary.

In addition Ayatollah Yazdi warned the judges against taking part in political events. At any time it is possible that certain political currents may exist in our country. These days when the elections for the Assembly of Experts will be held it is possible that there may be certain other trends. Judges and prosecutors should keep away from these trends and only act within the framework of their duties. [passage omitted]

Holy Defense Week Celebrations To Begin 22 Sep

LD2109105390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Holy defense week, the week celebrating victory, will start tomorrow [22 September] with the marches of the model units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. During this week, the proud people of Islamic Iran, by holding different ceremonies, will honor the epic story of our holy defense. The return of the heroic freedom [POW's] has added to the glory and enthusiasm of victory. [passage omitted]

Mojahedin Leader Rajavi Denies Iranian 'Lies'

LD1909211290 Hamburg DPA in German 2028 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] Cologne (DPA)—The People's Mojahedin [Mojahedin-e Khalq] resistance organization, which is banned in Iran, has denied a report by the official Iranian news agency, IRNA, according to which the leader of the organization called upon its supporters living in Iraq to leave the country immediately. According to a press release published today by the People's Mojahedin offices in Paris and Cologne, resistance leader Mas'oud Rajavi stated: "The lies spread by the inhumane Khomeyni regime and nonsensical assertions deserve neither regard nor a response."

IRNA reported yesterday that Rajavi had called on the Mojahedin to leave Iraq after the recent visit to Tehran by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz. The assertion by IRNA that the "acceptance by Iraq of all the conditions made by Iran" was "a great shock" to the People's Mojahedin was rejected by Rajavi in his statement as "foolish."

Nation Elected to IAEA Board of Governors

LD2009164290 Tehran IRNA in English 1414 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 20, IRNA—The Islamic Republic of Iran was elected on Thursday [20 September] as a member of the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at its current 34th annual session in Vienna, Austria.

Iran was elected unanimously by the IAEA for the first time since the victory of the Islamic revolution in 1979 and is to represent the Middle East and South Asia.

The board of governors is the principal policy-making body of the agency and under its own authority approves all safeguards, agreements and important projects.

*First Well Reaches Oil in Caspian Sea

90AS0443K London KEYHAN in Persian 30 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] The first Iranian oil well struck oil in the Mazandaran Sea, and immediately oil began flowing from it.

The drill of this well, which is located 20 km north of Bandar Pahlavi in the Mazandaran Sea, struck a layer of gas on Wednesday morning, 22 August, at 4,219 meters. The gas pressure was 8,000. It was 84 percent methane, 10 percent propane, and six percent hectane [as published], and the existence of hectane [?] gas confirms the probability of the presence of oil.

To date in the oil region of Mazandaran Sea 40 large reservoirs of oil have been identified, and the well that struck oil on Wednesday was positioned above one of those reservoirs.

*'Unhealthy' Meat To Be Purchased From EC

90AS0443E London KEYHAN in Persian 30 Aug 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Monday this week, after the release of Brian Keenan, the Irish hostage who was held for four and a half years by kidnappers in southern Lebanon, Charles

Haughey, the prime minister of Southern Ireland [the Republic of Ireland], announced that the European Common Market has agreed to a large beef deal with the Islamic Republic regime. Such transactions were stopped by a joint decision of the member nations of the European Common Market after the order to kill Salman Rushdie was issued by Ayatollah Khomeyni.

This large meat sale transaction was facilitated by continuous diplomatic contacts between officials of Ireland and the Islamic Republic, which led to the release of Brian Keenan.

By selling $9 million in meat to the Islamic Republic, the government of Southern Ireland has freed itself of a huge economic problem, and the meat of questionable cattle from that country, which no one will buy, is being sold to a customer that does not insist on the soundness of meat. European nations have recently prevented the importation of beef from Southern Ireland and England into their countries, because many of the cattle of these two countries have been infected by the BSC [as published] disease (mad cow), and their consumption is harmful and causes illness in people.

The Irish Meat Organization, which is the largest meat organization in Europe, was faced with the danger of bankruptcy after the European nations refused to buy its beef, and it will save itself from bankruptcy by making this deal to sell meat to Iran, and it will be able to repay P495 million [Irish pounds] in debts.

Bahram Qasemi, the Islamic Republic regime's ambassador to Dublin, said concerning this meat transaction: Just as the government of Ireland has announced, their minister of agriculture is going to Tehran to explain the BSC disease to officials of the Islamic Republic.

To avoid a controversy over the sale of unhealthy Irish beef, Qasemi claimed: In Ireland only a few instances of BSC disease have been seen, and this was caused by the use of feed from Britain.

The government of Ireland's current concern is that after the disease has appeared among Irish cattle, the Iranian meat market might be taken over by Latin American countries and even France, and it would be left empty-handed.

Recently, the Irish Meat Organization also lost the Egyptian meat market because of its diseased cattle. A debt of $45 million owed to this organization by Iraq also remains uncollected to date, and the company's desperate financial need has brought it to the brink of bankruptcy. Exports from this organization account for six percent of all of Southern Ireland's exports.

Charles Haughey, the prime minister of Southern Ireland, who gave the good news of the deal with the Islamic Republic regime to the rest of the Ireland meat organization, emphasized that agreement was obtained from the rest of the European Common Market nations before making this deal, and he convinced them that due to the disastrous state of Ireland's meat exports this deal is quite necessary.

The Islamic Republic regime has not yet announced any official measures to test the questionable Irish meat, yet if meat from "mad cows" is used it will seriously endanger the health of consumers.

Nepal

Protests Threatened Over Delay in Constitution

BK2109042090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0400 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Report by Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept 21 (AFP)—Left-wing factions in Nepal's ruling coalition have blamed the Nepali Congress Party of Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai for delays in adopting a democratic constitution and are threatening to take the issue to the streets.

The factions have accused the Nepali Congress of engaging in a conspiracy with members of the royal family to amend a draft constitution and retain royal powers, a charge Mr. Bhattarai has rejected.

"If any changes are being made in the constitution the Nepali congress will be held responsible," Marxist-Leninist leader Radha Krishna Mainali said.

In a Central Committee meeting on Wednesday [19 September], his party passed a resolution demanding that King Birendra promulgate the new constitution without change or delay.

"The people's movement is not yet over. We may march to the streets any time if our demands are not fulfilled," the resolution said.

The king legalized political parties and appointed Mr. Bhattarai prime minister in April after 10 weeks of violent protests for democracy that left 500 people dead and more than 1,000 wounded.

The cabinet includes members of the United Leftist Front, which groups seven communist parties, and some independents.

The ruling coalition was expected to review the draft constitution on Friday [21 September] or Monday [24 September] before forwarding it to the king, and talks were to center on an article outlining procedures to amend the document.

Changes to the constitution's "basic features," which the leftists said included the monarchy and the multiparty system, could be proposed with the approval of one quarter of the 175-member house of representatives.

The proposed amendment would then require the king's consent to be brought to a general vote and would be put to a public referendum if it gained a two-thirds majority.

The chairman of the Constitution Recommendation Commission, Biswo Nath Upadhyay, said the draft constitution had not named the monarchy or the multiparty system as basic features and the issue would be left to the Supreme Court.

A threat to the system of monarchy or government was remote given the complicated process required to amend the constitution, another commission member said.

Nepali Congress leaders have said that the draft was subject to amendment before its promulgation.

"So long as the basic tenets of the constitutional monarchy, multiparty parliamentary system of government, sovereignty vested in the people and the Army to be governed by the civilians are not changed, we don't have any objections to some changes being made in the draft," Nepali Congress senior leader Ganesh Man Singh said.

The prime minister pledged Tuesday [18 September] that the constitution would be promulgated on September 26, the first day of the week-long Hindu Dasain festival.

"There cannot be any conspiracy against the new constitution guaranteeing the people's fundamental rights, a constitutional monarchy, a multiparty system of government and the sovereignty vested in the people," Mr. Bhattarai said.

"These are the basic demands of the people," he added.

The draft constitution is also under attack from a pro-Indian lobby, which objects to an article requiring a two-thirds majority in the house to allow foreigners to explore or develop natural resources in Nepal.

The lobby contends that the Article 128 is an attempt to stop India from helping Nepal develop its vast water resources.

Sources close to Mr. Bhattarai said political uncertainty in the country has forced him to cancel a visit to Britain and the United States.

The prime minister was to have travelled to the United Nations in New York to address the General Assembly and attend a U.N.-sponsored summit meeting on the world's children September 29 and 30.

Communists Join Pro-Democratic Congress Party

BK1509105290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1030 GMT 15 Sep 90

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept 15 (AFP)—A group of 55 political workers of the leftist Nepali Labourers and Peasants Organisation (Rohit Group) have joined the pro-democratic Nepali Congress Party, they said Saturday [15 September]. The workers said in a joint statement they had joined the Nepali Congress in the belief that "socialism and democracy" could be strengthened if the Nepali Congress was strong enough.

"We are proud to join the Nepali Congress with the objective of working for the cause of socialism and democracy in the country," they said, adding that the group had inspired the people to live with dignity.

Among those joining were prominent supporters of the Nepal Communist Party of Bhaktapur, a city known as a hotbed of communism.

Panel To Investigate Panchayat Embezzlement

BK1809133090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1303 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept 18 (AFP)—Nepal is to set up a commission of inquiry to look into allegations of embezzlement levelled against officials who served under the now dissolved partyless Panchayat system, a high-placed source said Tuesday [18 September].

The source, who declined to be identified, said the commission would investigate reports of wealth accumulated by former National Panchayat members, ministers and prime ministers who served from 1961-1990.

The commission would also investigate the acquisition of property by some influential royal secretaries and retired generals who served in the royal palace during the nearly 30-year span of the Panchayat system, the source said.

The formation of a commission was one of the demands of the popular pro-democracy movement which resulted in the dissolution of the National Panchayat, or parliament, and its partyless system in April and the drafting of a new constitution in Nepal.

Bhutan

Political Change, Activism in Kingdom Viewed

BK2109052590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0337 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Report by Marie-France Rouze]

[Text] Thimphu, Sept 21 (AFP)—The tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, landlocked between India and China, is losing its Shangri-la image of an earthly paradise with the emergence of hitherto unknown social and political problems.

Both the government and its critics qualify the changes—albeit for different reasons—as "a sad story."

Members of the Bhutanese cabinet agreed in interviews here that at stake is the very survival of a country unique in its traditions and long a haven of tranquility in a region wracked by ethnic strife.

King Jigme Singye Wangchuk, 34, explained in an interview that Bhutan's first political problems since the current dynasty came to power in 1902 was "a backlash from the activities of the Gurkha National Liberation Front and other separatist movements in India, and the Tamil problem in Sri Lanka."

These were the elements, he said, that led people in southern Bhutan to decide it was time that they too turned activist.

Most observers here agree that recent tensions in the south of the country and acts of violence imported from across the border are a result of what one called the government's "clumsy policy" of trying to limit the increasing number of ethnic Nepalese Hindus in Bhutan.

Representatives of the ethnic group claim they account for as high as 45 percent of the population, which is officially 1.3 million, but in fact closer to 800,000. The king maintains they are no more than 30 percent.

An official here with an international organization said it all began in 1987, when the government began expelling Nepalese Hindu workers by the tens of thousands.

Some of them were illegal immigrants, he said, but many had come legally.

Last year, the government imposed a "code of conduct," forcing them to wear the traditional garb of the ruling class, ethnic Mongolian Buddhist Drukpas. This year, it stopped teaching Nepalese in schools as part of a "Bhutanization" drive to preserve the national identity.

"Where the problem begins," explained a diplomat, "is that Bhutan has two distinct cultures: Buddhist in the north and Hindu in the south."

This, he said, "has created a trememdous resentment" in the country and led to the creation in the south of groups of "desperate people".

"It is a sad situation," he said, "because the problem was created by the government."

Thousands of ethnic Nepalese—12,000 according to apparently inflated figures given by the Bhutan Student Union, 2,000 to 3,000 according to Deputy Home Minister Dasho Dago Tshering—have recently fled the country.

They have created dissident groups in exile such as the student union and the People's forum for Human Rights, demanding democracy and accusing the government of violating human rights and freedom of religion, of kidnappings, torture and detention without trial.

The deputy home minister denied the allegations "absolutely," saying that only about half a dozen people remained in jail for "seditious activities" and that hundreds held earlier had been freed.

"The job of disgruntled people is to prove that the other side is wicked," he said, accusing the dissidents of simply trying "to attract attention."

He claimed they conducted cross-border raids from India to push inhabitants of the south to join their movement, extorting money and support.

The king, as well as many members of his government, agreed in a series of interviews that Bhutan, lacking any military power, must maintain and reinforce its national identity.

"We are concerned for our survival," the king said.

Dasho Tshering said that before taking the measures criticized by the dissidents, the king had consulted and obtained the approval of the local authorities.

"We should have a distinct identity for our country and our people because we are small, we are economically weak, because we live between one billion Chinese people and 800 million people in India," he explained. "We feel that by strenghtening our national identity and unity, (we) can be strong in political relations in face of other countries."

"It is not that we wanted the people to be in uniform," added Lyonpo Om Pradhan, the minister of commerce, industry and tourism, and himself an ethnic Nepalese.

"I hope both sides see reason," he said. "If the government has made mistakes, we will correct them. It is the first time we have a problem like this."

But Dasho Tshering was adamant that the new rules would apply.

"My job in the ministry," he said, "is to protect the life and prosperity of the people and the application of our laws. Anyone breaking the law will find we are there to implement them. We will not accept seditious activites."

The king, who describes his rule as "a democratic monarchy," although Bhutan has no constitution, says he is ready to change the country's institutions if that is the wish of the Bhutanese people.

"I am confident we will resolve the problem," he said, "because we have no choice."

Pakistan

Jatoi Speaks on Sindh, Kashmir, Press Freedom

BK2009114390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has said antidemocratic elements are involved in renewed ethnic violence as they want to impede the democratic process in the country. Talking to journalists in Islamabad yesterday, he warned that the government would deal sternly with such elements. Referring to the law and order situation in Sindh, he said many are already under arrest and more would be apprehended. About the release of Mr. G.M. Syed, the prime minister pointed out that it was a provincial matter. However, if the Sindh government had released him, it would have considered all aspects of the matter.

In reply to a question, Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said it was unfortunate that the former prime minister was indulging in criticism of the office of the president. He said everybody should respect the national institutions and should not involve them in politics to achieve personal motives.

The prime minister, in reply to another question, said the government is trying to gain membership in the consortium established to aid the countries affected by the Gulf conflict. He said during his recent visit that he had held detailed negotiations with Arab leaders and that they are aware of Pakistan's difficulties resulting to the Gulf crisis.

On Kashmir, he said Pakistan has a principled policy and there is no compromise or slackness in it. When asked about the U.S. ambassador's meeting with him, he said that they discussed matters of bilateral interest. The U.S. ambassador brought a goodwill message to him from President Bush. The prime minister stated categorically that the U.S. President did not make any suggestions pertaining to the internal situation in Pakistan. The prime minister gave an assurance that the government did not intend to curb the freedom of the press.

Sindh Politician Syed Released, Cases Dropped

BK2109104390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] The veteran politician, G.M. Syed, was released in Karachi yesterday evening following the withdrawal of the cases against him. The Sindh government has denied press reports that while ordering withdrawal of the cases against G.M. Syed, the provincial government had also ordered that the case against G.M. Syed relating to the desecration of the national flag at Sukkur Airport in October last year be withdrawn. The Sindh government has clarified that the case is under the consideration of a relevant court and that G.M. Syed is not involved in this case.

Editorial Notes Enduring Ties With PRC

BK2009120390 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 20 Sep 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Enduring Ties"]

[Text] Pakistan's special relationship with the People's Republic of China has endured many a change in both regional and global correlations over the decades. The Pakistan-China equation, based as it is on a strong mutual bedrock of national policies, has also not been affected by the change of governments in either country. It is, thus, only proper that President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has decided to embark on an official visit to our friendly neighbour even at a time when the domestic situation within this country makes considerable demands on his time and attention. The significance of President Ghulam Ishaq Khan's four-day visit to China, due to start this morning, is also highlighted by the fact that Beijing is the first foreign capital to which he is travelling since assuming the office of Pakistan's Head of State some two years ago (barring, of course, his trip to Tehran to attend Imam Khomeyni's funeral ceremonies).

Although the President's instant visit to China has been occasioned primarily by the Eleventh Asian Games being held in Beijing, it would provide a much-needed

opportunity to the top leadership of the two traditionally friendly societies to exchange views on the monumental changes taking place currently in this part of the world. As far as China's approach to South Asia is concerned, there has clearly been a deviation of late in the pattern which prevailed prior to the superpower rapprochement and the recent thaw in relations between Moscow and Beijing. The readiness of the Chinese leadership to disengage its traditional ties with certain South Asian States, particularly Pakistan, from the new opening to New Delhi, has already been demonstrated in the recent tour of the region made by Mr Li Peng. The Chinese Prime Minister is now scheduled to visit New Delhi as well. At the same time, China has repeatedly emphasised that its ties with Pakistan would not be affected by Beijing's new regional agenda. It can only be hoped that this key understanding would be reinforced during the Pakistan President's visit to China, coming as it does at the height of escalated tensions in South and West Asia.

With regard to the Middle East situation also, the visit can be expected to lead to a better understanding by the Chinese leadership of the constraints and priorities determining Pakistan's position. On the other hand, China, with the consistent restaint and maturity which it has so far shown towards the developing volatile situation in the Middle East, qualifies to play a continuingly positive role vis-a-vis the Muslim Third World. It would be only in the fitness of things if President Ghulam Ishaq Khan subsequent to the exchange of views at Beijing, takes some time out to confer with the leadership of Pakistan's other two strongest friends in Iran and Turkey as well. A visit to the two capitals has at any rate, been due for quite some time now.

Sri Lanka

Curfew Reimposed on Jaffna Peninsula 21 Sep

BK2109073490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0713 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Colombo, Sept 21 (AFP)—An indefinite curfew was reimposed on Sri Lanka's northern Jaffna Peninsula Friday [21 September] after a three-day break as the security forces resumed their stalled offensive against separatist Tamil guerrillas, military officials here said.

The curfew was clamped on Jaffna District, covering the entire peninsula, at six A.M to "facilitate operations by the security forces," the officials said without elaborating.

It was the second time in as many weeks that a curfew was imposed on the district.

The first was on September 13, when the government launched a massive military operation to relieve a three-month-old siege of a fort near Jaffna Town by the rebels of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

After the troops successfully broke the siege and took control of the areas around the 300-year-old fort, built during the Dutch colonial period, the curfew was relaxed Tuesday throughout the peninsula, with the exception of Jaffna Town.

The officials said the curfew had been relaxed to enable people to buy provisions.

Though the forces had taken control of the fort area, their advance into Jaffna Town had been stalled by the rebels, who had heavily mined all apprach roads and booby-trapped buildings.

Details of the latest offensive were not available, but it is apparently intended to extend the area of control of the security forces around the fort and enable them to advance into the town.

Junior Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne had said Thursday that the forces planned to clear the areas up to Jaffna hospital from the fort, a distance of about one kilometre, and hand over the hospital to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

He said the objective of the operation was to reopen the hospital for the convenience of the public.

Meanwhile, a military spokesman revised downwards the death toll in Thursday's attack on a Sinhalese fishing village in North-western Province by suspected LTTE guerrillas from 40 to 23.

He said the earlier figure was based on accounts given by survivors.

A body count of the victims of the massacre at Vellamandal village showed that 23 people—17 men, three women and three children—were killed and two wounded.

Offcials said in incidents reported during the last 24 hours, security forces shot dead nine rebels in the north-east, while unidentified men killed two Sinhalese civilians.

They said six rebels were shot dead by the security forces when they tried to escape during a cordon and search operation in Talawai village in the eastern Batticaloa District.

Three other rebels were killed when they were approaching a bridge in a boat at Mandativu, an islet close to Jaffna Town.

The forces first destroyed the boat and then shot dead the three occupants as they tried to swim to safety, the officials added.

They said two Sinhalese civilians were shot dead by unidentified persons at Kalmunai in the Eastern Ampara District.

Air force planes attacked rebel bunkers in Vasavilan and Kadduwan close to Palaly air base in Jaffna Peninsula, causing an unknown number of casualties to the rebels, they added.

They said rebels attacked the Elephant Pass army camp and the Jaffna Fort with mortars and small arms, but there were no casualties.

Vellamandil Death Toll at 23

BK2109103890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 32 persons have been killed in the continued violence in the northeast during the last 24 hours. Official reports in Colombo say that at Vellamandil in Puttalam District, 23 civilians are feared killed by the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] militants. In Batticaloa, six LTTE militants were killed by security forces at Talawa. Three militants were killed by the security forces in another encounter near Puvankulam observation post.

Our Colombo correspondent, Karuppuswamy, says that the LTTE is continuing its attack on the Jaffna fort, Elephant Pass, and Vavuniya. Indefinite curfew has been clamped on the entire Jaffna peninsula and a warning has been issued to the people to remain indoors.

Meanwhile, the national emergency in Sri Lanka has been extended for another month. The motion for its continuation was passed in Parliament yesterday.

36,000 of 100,000 Nationals in Gulf Returned

BK2009111190 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0919 GMT 20 Sep 90

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 20 (LANKAPUVATH)—President Ranasinghe Premadasa's program to rescue Sri Lankans from the Gulf has brought back 36,000 Lankans up to date out of an estimated 100,000 employed in Kuwait. The large majority of them are house maids. Air Lanka Chairman Dunstan Jayawardena said this morning that 26,000 more Lankans in Kuwait would be brought back in 87 more flights organised for the next few weeks, the DAILY OBSERVER states. He added that every day a minimum of 1,250 stranded persons were flown back. On some days as many as 2,000 were flown back. Mr. Jayawardena further said that 22 flights per week were now in operation on these mercy missions. Air Lanka's own Tristar brings 276 persons a day. Royal Jordanian Airlines have already begun flights which bring in 250 persons a day. Two Ilyushin aircraft chartered by Air Lanka bring in 300 Lankans in each flight. Two (?U.S.) "Evergreen" aircraft chartered by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) fly in 500 Lankans per day. Yesterday a total of 1,500 Lankans were flown in.

Informed sources said that Sri Lanka had fared very well in comparison with some other countries in bringing back stranded persons from the Gulf region. India, for instance, is reported to have brought back only 47,000 Indians up to date from a total workforce of 200,000 employed in Kuwait, despite the large fleet of planes she owns.

Government Action So Far Explained

BK2009103890 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0908 GMT 20 Sep 90

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 20 Sept (LANKAPUVATH)—A delegation led by Mr. Dinesh Gunewardena, MP [Member of Parliament] and President of the Organisation for the Protection of Sri Lankans Employed in the Middle East met the president yesterday at the presidential secretariat. They said that in Kuwait 95,000 Sri Lankans are employed and due to the present crisis they are undergoing great hardship and misery.

A presidential release said, at the president's request, Mr. A.C. S. Hameed, Minister of Justice, explained the action taken so far by the government to bring them back. He said that in Amman there are 90,000 refugees, in Turkey there are 273 and small numbers in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates (UAE). Those who are in Turkey will be brought back by Air Lanka immediately. Those who are in Amman will be cleared within two weeks. Twenty-two flights have been organised per week to bring them. Air Lanka has set apart one Tristar for this purpose. Two aircrafts will be chartered from Aeroflot Soviet airline five flights were due Wednesday [19 September] bringing back about 1,250 [sentence as received].

The cost to Air Lanka on these flights will be around Rupees 535 million. A ship carrying nearly 1,200 is on its way to Sri Lanka.

Mr. A.C.S. Hameed explained that large numbers are detained at the Jordan border. When the numbers in Amman are reduced, more and more will be allowed to cross the border and come to Amman. At the moment, it is only through Amman that all the refugees could be brought back.

The Iran border is not yet open. Negotiations are being made with the authorities concerned to open this border. It is proposed to deploy about 500 buses to transport the refugees.

It is not possible for incoming flights to land in Kuwati. No facilities are available at the airport and insurance companies do not provide insurance cover for flights into or out of Kuwait or Iraq.

It was decided to find out the action taken by Indian authorities to bring their refugees. Also Sri Lanka will seek the assistance of India to bring our refugees to a location convenient for Air Lanka to fly them back to Colombo.

Minister Terms Amnesty International 'Terrorist'

BK2009130590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1145 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Colombo, Sept 20 (AFP)—Sri Lankan Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne Thursday [20 September] renewed his charge that Amnesty International was a terrorist organisation.

Rejecting an Amnesty report released Wednesday on human rights violations in Sri Lanka, Mr. Wijeratne told reporters at a press briefing in parliament that his view on the London-based human rights organisation remained the same.

"I repeat they (amnesty) are a terrorist organisation. I have not changed my mind (on that)," Mr. Wijeratne said.

"I don't even take any notice of it (the report)," Mr. Wijeratne said when asked for his opinion on the latest Amnesty report on Sri Lanka.

The report said that political opponents in Sri Lanka have been summarily rounded up, tortured and killed with the apparent backing of the government in recent years.

"The opposition groups have themselves committed atrocious crimes, but the government must not use this as an excuse for like brutality that violates basic rights. It must now act to halt continuing violations," it said.

Mr. Wijeratne in January lashed out at Amnesty International, accusing it of being a terrorist organisation and of funding subversion in Sri Lanka, a charge the human rights group denied.

"Amnesty has not spoken about the Kathankudy and Eravur massacres," Mr. Wijeratne said Thursday, referring to the slaughter of more than 200 Moslem civilians in two townships in eastern Sri Lanka in August.

Colombo has blamed the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) for the killings, but the LTTE, which is fighting government troops in the island's northeast, denied it was behind the killings.

Mr. Wijeratne said that until Amnesty comments on the Moslem massacres, he would not take any notice of the organisation.